



News Release

Department of Health and Wellness

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEASONAL FLU VACCINES AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 8

Shots Available at Fulton County Health Centers

September 3, 2009--The Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness will begin offering seasonal flu shots Tuesday, September 8, 2009 at 8 of its health centers from 8:30am until 5:00pm.

“Our goal for this year was to order early in order to have our supply ready for the season,” stated Dr. Kim Turner, Interim Health Director of the Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness. “We are confident that we will be able to provide seasonal flu vaccinations to residents who want to get a flu shot.”

Residents will be able to obtain the seasonal flu shot at a cost of \$25. The Department strongly encourages individuals who fall within the priority high-risk groups identified by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to get their shot.

The groups include:

Children ages 6 months and older

Adults ages 50 and older

Persons over 6 months old with certain chronic medical conditions

Residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities

Healthcare workers involved in direct patient care

Caregivers, including daycare workers, and household contacts of children under age 5.

Women who will be pregnant during the influenza season

According to the CDC, the seasonal flu vaccine protects against the three main flu strains that research indicates will cause the most illness during the flu season. This year’s influenza vaccine contains three new influenza virus strains. They are A/Brisbane/59/2007-like virus; A/Brisbane/10/2007-like virus; and B/Florida/4/2006-like virus. The 2009-2010 seasonal influenza vaccine can protect you from getting sick from these three viruses, or it can make your illness milder if you get a related but different strain of flu virus.

Individuals who do not get a seasonal influenza vaccine are taking two significant risks – one, they are placing themselves at risk for influenza, including a potentially long and serious illness; and two, placing others, especially children ages 6 months and older, adults ages 50 and older and persons with chronic medical conditions at risk to develop serious complications.

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Health center locations and numbers are:

Adamsville Health Center - 3699 Bakers Ferry Rd., SW, Atlanta, 404-699-4215

Center Hill Health Center - 3201 Atlanta Indus. Pkwy., Atlanta, 404-699-6370

Willie J. Freeman College Park Regional Health Center -1920 John E. Wesley Ave., College Park, 404-765-4155

Lakewood Health Center - 1853 Jonesboro Rd., SE, Atlanta, 404-624-0626

Center for Health and Rehabilitation – 265 Boulevard., NE, Atlanta, 404-730-5835

Neighborhood Union Health Center – 186 Sunset Ave., NW, Atlanta, 404-612-4665

North Fulton Regional Health Center – 3155 Royal Drive, Alpharetta, 404-332-1834

Sandy Spring Health Center - 330 Johnson Ferry Rd., NE, Atlanta, 404-303-6162

For additional information, visit the Fulton County web site at www.fultoncountygahahealth.org.

For more information about the effectiveness of the seasonal flu vaccine, visit

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/vaccineeffect.htm>

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