



**P R E S S R E L E A S E**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Pandemic H1N1 (Swine) Flu Weekly Update for Santa Barbara County**

This is a weekly update on the status of H1N1 flu in our County, including the availability of H1N1 vaccine, the number of new hospitalizations and deaths, and any other pertinent H1N1 related information.

**H1N1 Flu Vaccine**

Between November 5 and November 14, the Public Health Department is providing special H1N1 flu vaccine community clinics for high risk groups in our community. These high risk groups include pregnant women, children 6 months through 4 years of age, parents of infants 0 – 6 months and healthcare workers. As a result of the first clinic on November 5 at Earl Warren Fairgrounds in Santa Barbara almost 1,000 residents were vaccinated. A majority of those vaccinated were young children, under the age of 5. Other clinics are planned for Santa Maria (11/7), Lompoc (11/7), Solvang (11/9), and Carpinteria (11/14).

The Public Health Department has distributed vaccine to pediatricians and specialists to vaccinate children with substantive disabling medical conditions. Hospitals have also received vaccine for hospital workers.

**Hospitalizations and Deaths of Santa Barbara County Residents**

<b>H1N1 Hospitalizations &amp; Deaths of Santa Barbara County Residents</b>			
	<b>Past Total</b>	<b>Current<sup>1</sup> Week</b>	<b>Cumulative Total</b>
# hospitalized w/ probable & confirmed H1N1	37	6	43
# probable & confirmed H1N1 deaths	3	0	3

Santa Barbara County has had a total of 43 hospitalizations associated with Pandemic H1N1 flu as of November 6, 2009. The first of these hospitalizations occurred in mid-June of this year. This number of hospitalized includes four pregnant women.

The Public Health Department has also been operating an H1N1 flu information phone line where nurses respond to public inquiries in both English and Spanish. Between September 23 and November 3, 869 calls have been taken.

Questions may be directed to the PHD H1N1 Public Hotline at 1-888-722-6358. Additional information is on the PHD website: [www.sbcfluinfo.org](http://www.sbcfluinfo.org) or follow us on twitter at SBCTPublicHealth.

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<sup>1</sup> October 25-November 4, 2009