



**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
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## **P R E S S R E L E A S E**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Who should get a flu vaccine?**

It is recommended that everyone be vaccinated against both the seasonal and H1N1 flu since vaccination is the single best way to prevent the flu. Seasonal flu vaccine is available now in our community. H1N1 flu vaccine is still undergoing clinical trials and it is expected to be available in October.

With two flu vaccines (seasonal and H1N1), there are some differences in when they are available and who is targeted as a priority group to receive the vaccines. It is best for people to get the vaccines when they become available based on their age and medical condition. Please refer to the chart on the following page for specifics on each type of vaccine.

For more information, see the Public Health Department's website [www.sbcfluinfo.org](http://www.sbcfluinfo.org). For additional questions, contact your health care provider or call the H1N1 Information Line toll-free at 1-888-722-6358.

	Seasonal Flu Vaccine	H1N1 Flu Vaccine
When should I get the vaccine?	Get the seasonal flu vaccine as soon as possible.	Get the H1N1 vaccine when it is available for you based on your age and medical condition.
Where can I get the vaccine?	Many healthcare providers, clinics, and pharmacies have seasonal flu vaccine available beginning in September.	Many healthcare providers will be receiving the vaccine from the government in mid-to late October. As it gets closer, check with your healthcare provider about when it's available. The PHD will offer H1N1 vaccine clinics in the community to ensure access for uninsured and those without a primary healthcare provider.
How many doses will I need?	Everyone needs one dose except children 8 yr and younger who will need two doses the first year they receive it.	Clinical trials are showing that one dose may be effective for adults, while we are awaiting the trial results for children.
What types of flu vaccine are available?	The vaccine is available as a shot or as a nasal spray. The nasal spray is only for healthy individuals between the ages of 2 and 49.	The vaccine may be available in a shot or as a nasal spray. The nasal spray would most likely be for healthy individuals between the ages of 2 and 49.
Who is in the target group for the vaccine?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All children 6 months to 18 years</li> <li>• Pregnant women</li> <li>• Persons over 50 years of age</li> <li>• Persons who have chronic underlying medical conditions</li> <li>• Residents of long-term care facilities</li> <li>• Health care personnel</li> <li>• Household contacts and caregivers of children under 6 months or adults over 50 years</li> <li>• Household contacts and caregivers of persons with medical conditions</li> </ul>	<p>Phase #1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pregnant women</li> <li>• Persons who live with or provide care for infants under 6 months</li> <li>• Health-care and emergency medical services personnel who have direct contact with patients</li> <li>• Children 6 months through 4 years</li> <li>• Children age 5 – 18 years with medical conditions that put them at high risk</li> </ul> <p>Phase #2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other health-care and emergency medical services personnel</li> <li>• All persons 6 months to 24 years</li> <li>• Persons 25 – 64 years who have medical conditions that put them at higher risk</li> </ul> <p>Phase #3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All persons 25 years and older</li> <li>• Anyone else wanting protection from H1N1</li> </ul>