



KEY FACTS ABOUT 2009 H1N1 VACCINE

Three kinds of vaccines will be available at the Whatcom County H1N1 Flu Vaccine Clinics.

- **An H1N1 "flu shot"** – the flu shot contains killed flu virus and is given in the arm or thigh. All people 6 months of age and older, including pregnant women and people with chronic medical conditions can get the shot.
- **The H1N1 nasal spray flu vaccine "FluMist"**— a vaccine made with live, weakened virus that does not cause the flu. This vaccine is given by a spray up the nose. Healthy people 2 to 49 years of age who are not pregnant can get "FluMist". **The seasonal FluMist and the H1N1 FluMist cannot be given together or within 4 weeks of each other.**
- **Thimerosal-free H1N1 "flu shot"** – A limited amount of thimerosal-free vaccine is available for pregnant women and children aged 6 months to 36 months; however, **we can not guarantee its availability at any of the community-based clinics.**

There will be no seasonal flu vaccine available at this clinic.

Cost of the Vaccine

There will be no out-of-pocket cost to anyone. All people in the priority groups are welcome at the clinic, with or without insurance. A small administration fee will be billed to select insurance companies so, if available, please bring your insurance card to the clinic.

Vaccination of Children

Children under 18 years of age must have a parent or guardian present in order to receive the vaccine. Children under 10 years of age will need a second dose of vaccine at least 28 days after the first dose.

Who Should Not Be Vaccinated

If you have any of the conditions below, you **CANNOT** get vaccinated at a Whatcom County community-based clinic. Please seek the advice of your health care provider.

- People who have a severe allergy (hives or difficulty breathing) to chicken eggs.
- People who have had a severe reaction to any influenza vaccination.
- People who have had Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS).
- Children younger than 6 months of age (flu vaccine is not approved for this age group).
- People who have a moderate-to-severe illness with a fever (they should wait until they recover to get vaccinated.)

Vaccination for People Not in the Target Groups

The priority groups are developed by the Centers for Disease Control to get vaccine first to those at highest risk of complications from H1N1 influenza. We don't yet have enough vaccine available for everyone but it is expected that enough vaccine will be available for everyone who wants to receive it by mid-November.

For more information about H1N1 influenza and the vaccination, please go to the Whatcom County Health Department website at www.whatcomcounty.us/health/h1n1