



33 Mill Street  
 Painesville, Ohio 44077

Painesville: (440) 350-2543  
 Cleveland: (440) 918-2543  
 Madison: (440) 428-4348 x2543  
 Fax: (440) 350-2548  
 www.lcghd.org

Joel Lucia, R.S., M.P.H.  
 Health Commissioner

**NEWS RELEASE**  
 August 14, 2009

**CONTACT: DAWN COLE (440) 350-2417**  
**LAKE COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT**

**SEASONAL FLU VACCINE AND H1N1 FLU VACCINE**

The vaccines to protect people from seasonal flu and H1N1 flu are two different vaccines. The United States Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is encouraging everyone to get a seasonal flu shot. Since the first batch of H1N1 flu vaccine may be available in limited amounts, the CDC has determined that only certain groups of people will receive the H1N1 flu shot first. Based on the information available at this time, the table below describes the groups of people and the reason(s) why they may be the first to receive the H1N1 flu shot:

GROUP TO BE VACCINATED	REASON
<b>Pregnant Women</b>	They are at higher risk of complications and the H1N1 vaccine may protect their infants who cannot be vaccinated.
<b>Household Members and Caregivers for Children Younger than Six Months of Age</b>	Infants six months old and under are at higher risk of complications from flu and cannot be vaccinated. Vaccination of people in close contact with these infants might help protect them since the vaccinated people will have less of a chance to spread H1N1 flu.
<b>Healthcare and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Personnel</b>	If healthcare workers are ill with H1N1, they can spread it to patients. Also, if healthcare and EMS personnel are absent, hospitals may not be able to take care of the patients efficiently.

<b>All People from Six Months through 24 Years of Age</b>	There have been many cases of H1N1 flu in children and they are in close contact with each other in school and day care settings, which increases the chances that the disease will spread. Also, there have been many cases of H1N1 flu in healthy young adults and they often live, work, and study in close contact with each other. Young adults are also likely to move and can spread the flu to other areas.
<b>Persons Aged 25 through 64 Years who have Health Conditions Associated with Higher Risk of Medical Complications from Flu</b>	This group has a greater chance of developing severe illness if they get H1N1.

After people in these groups have been vaccinated, everyone from the ages of 25 through 64 years may be vaccinated. Current studies show that the risk of infection for people aged 65 or older is less than the risk for younger age groups. After the younger age groups have been vaccinated, people 65 and older may be offered vaccine. For more information, visit <http://www.cdc.gov> or contact the Lake County General Health District at (440) 350-2543 or on the web at [www.lcghd.org](http://www.lcghd.org).

###