



City of Milford, Connecticut

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Milford Plans for H1N1 Vaccination Clinics in Schools

The Milford Health Department is working closely with Milford Public Schools to schedule H1N1 (also known as “swine flu”) vaccination clinics in Milford Public and Private Schools in the near future.

The dates of the vaccination clinics have not been established at this time, as dates are dependent on the amount and type of vaccine received through the Connecticut Department of Public Health. Due to the limited supply of vaccine at this time, school clinics will initially be targeted towards priority groups as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The priority groups for school vaccination clinics are as follows:

- Pregnant women
- People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age
- Children age 5 through 18 years with high risk medical conditions

“School-aged children have been disproportionately affected by the H1N1 virus. Our goal is to distribute the vaccine we receive to the students who are at highest risk in our schools to protect the students, staff, and community-at-large,” said Dr. Dennis McBride, Milford Health Director.

Parents and/or guardians will receive consent forms to register students to receive the vaccine in school. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Harvey Polansky said, “The Milford Public Schools will continue to work closely with the Health Department to get information out to parents as quickly as possible. The health of our students and staff is our greatest concern.” Clinics for high school students will be scheduled during the school day without parental presence for those students who submit signed consent forms by the deadline. Middle school and elementary school clinics, at which parents/guardians are expected to accompany their children, will be held after school.

The schedule of clinics is dependent on vaccine availability. The Milford Health Department expects to receive enough vaccine to cover students within the priority groups. However, if vaccine supply is initially limited, students who have submitted the consent forms by the November 9th deadline and cannot receive vaccine at the initial clinic will be scheduled for future clinics as vaccine becomes available.

Please note that H1N1 vaccine is also being distributed to physicians within the community. As such, parents and caregivers are encouraged to contact your child’s primary care physician to determine if your child may be able to obtain the vaccine through your provider’s office.

For questions regarding 2009 pandemic H1N1 influenza, please visit the Milford Health Department website at www.ci.milford.ct.us, click on “City Departments,” and then “Health Department.”

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