



Central Michigan District Health Department

Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities

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Roscommon County
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October 19, 2009

Dear Arenac County Parents/Guardians:

The novel 2009 H1N1 influenza virus has caused illness ranging from mild to severe, including hospitalizations and deaths in adults and children. Health officials are recommending that children and young adults ages 6 months – 24 years be vaccinated against the novel 2009 H1N1 influenza as soon as the vaccine becomes available.

Immunizing your child is the best way to protect him/her from this potentially serious disease. Central Michigan District Health Department is working with schools to offer school-based mass vaccination clinics for daycare, preschool and school-aged children. The following clinic is being offered in Arenac County:

**Thursday, November 19th from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at
Standish-Sterling High School (2401 Grove Road in Standish)**

Children who are between the ages of 6 months and 9 years will need two doses of vaccine spaced at least 4 weeks apart. The second dose for these children will be scheduled at a later date. There will be no cost to you for this vaccine; however, if you have an insurance plan which covers administration fees for vaccines, we are able to bill your insurance.

In order for your child to be immunized you must:

- Review the Vaccine Information Sheet (VIS)
- Complete the attached consent/refusal form. **This form needs to be returned whether you choose to have your child immunized or not.**
- Consent/refusal forms must be returned one week prior to the clinic date in those school districts where clinics will be held to assist the health department with clinic planning.
- If your child will be attending a clinic within his/her own school district, then the consent/refusal form can be returned to your school office.
- If the clinic is not in your school district, bring your child's consent on the day of the clinic.
- At this time, we can only immunize daycare aged children, school aged children and pregnant women. Once the vaccine becomes more widely available, we will provide community-based clinics in your area.

If you have questions about the vaccine or the immunization clinics, please call (989) 846-6541 ext. 8111. You will find more information on the 2009 novel H1N1 influenza virus, including the VIS and consent/refusal forms, on our website at www.cmdhd.org.

Your child's healthcare provider can also answer your questions about the 2009 novel H1N1 influenza virus and may be able to give your child both the seasonal influenza and 2009 H1N1 immunizations.

Sincerely,

Mary Kushion, MSA, Health Officer

Please visit us at our website www.cmdhd.org