



Administration

608 Oakland Avenue
Elkhart, IN 46516-2116
(574) 523-2283 Fax: (574) 295-6186
Website: www.elkhartcountyhealth.org

Daniel A. Nafziger, MD, MS
Health Officer



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

December 10, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Elkhart County – Elkhart County Health Department officials reported today that more than 8,236 children in Elkhart County Schools have received the H1N1 flu vaccine at free clinics held in all middle and high schools throughout the county in the past month. Additionally, many elementary schools have had clinics and the Health Department anticipates scheduling clinics in every elementary school prior to the Christmas holiday break.

“We want to thank school personnel and parent volunteers who helped make these mass immunization clinics such a success,” stated Dr. Daniel A. Nafziger, Health Officer. “We’ve started to provide vaccines to the younger students now and since children under the age of 9 will require two doses of the H1N1 vaccine, we’ll be returning to elementary schools for a second clinic after schools resume in January.”

According to information provided by the Indiana State Department of Health, Elkhart County had received 33,800 doses of the H1N1 vaccine by November 30. The Health Department and other community medical providers had administered 19,950 doses by December 1 to residents in the high priority groups as identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Dr. Nafziger says, “The actual number of vaccine doses administered is even higher as the count only becomes official when the provider enters the information in the state’s immunization registry. Of the vaccine that our health department has kept to administer ourselves over 84% has been administered with the balance being available for vaccinating children before December 19th.”

The Health Department is also announcing the H1N1 flu vaccine clinics will be offered for the general population starting Monday, December 21. A schedule of locations and times for these clinics is provided at the department’s web site: www.elkhartcountyhealth.org. The CDC’s most recent estimate is that about 15% of the American population has been infected so far this year with the 2009 H1N1 virus so most people are still at risk for getting sick.

As families are gathering for the holidays Health Department personnel are encouraging everyone to continue healthy practices. That includes frequently washing your hands, coughing or sneezing into your sleeve and staying home if you’re sick.

Don’t Get the Flu. Don’t Spread the Flu. Get Vaccinated Today.

“Dedicated to a Healthful Life and Environment”