



HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION

Healthy People Living in Healthy Communities Throughout El Dorado County

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To: County Department Heads
From: Olivia Kasirye, MD, MS
El Dorado County Health Officer
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Update on Seasonal Flu and H1N1 Swine Flu

Seasonal Flu:

The State has received the remainder of the seasonal flu vaccine and plans to process orders for State-purchased vaccine placed by providers. The County's "Kung-Flu Fighters" vaccination campaign in the middle schools is winding down over the next couple of weeks.

H1N1 Swine Flu:

There continues to be widespread flu activity in the County and statewide. The majority of cases have been mild. Most of the cases are among children as well as adults with underlying chronic medical conditions. Only severe cases are being tested and reported to the county. We have 170 cases reported, including 22 hospitalizations and one (1) flu-related death. We continue to promote the prevention message, which is to wash hands frequently, cover your cough, and stay home if you are sick; and we encourage businesses to have a business continuity plan in case of excessive employee absences.

Vaccination efforts are ongoing; the California Department of Public Health has allotted vaccine to each county based on population size and subject to availability from the manufacturers. So far we have received about 30,000 doses in the County since October. El Dorado County opted to have a large portion of the earlier shipments of vaccine delivered to community healthcare providers who have focused vaccination efforts on the high-risk priority groups recommended by the CDC (Centers for Disease Control). Public Health focused vaccination efforts initially on emergency responders. We have also provided vaccination by appointment at both the Placerville and South Lake Tahoe clinics to individuals in the high-risk groups that were not able to get it from their healthcare provider.

Public Health held the first mass vaccination community clinic at the Placerville Fairgrounds on Wednesday, December 2, and provided vaccination to over 650 county residents. This clinic focused on the high risk groups. Upcoming vaccination clinics on December 14th at the Fairgrounds and December 17th at Lake Tahoe Community College will be open to everyone who wants to get the vaccine. There is no charge to the individual to receive the vaccine. Additional clinics will be announced subject to availability of vaccine.

For further information, you can call Dr Olivia Kasirye, Health Officer at 530-621-6277