

## **Constituent Resource Guide 2004-2005 Flu Vaccine Shortage**

This guide provides a list of agencies that may offer assistance to those seeking help in locating flu vaccine throughout New York State. Included within this guide you will find information on the flu, priority groups for vaccination, vaccination details, and local facilities that are currently administering flu vaccine. **The list of Flu Vaccine Clinics in New York State includes information from local Departments of Health, local clinics, and senior centers that indicated they had supplies of the vaccine as of Monday, November 1. However, since vaccine supplies can change from day to day, we cannot ensure that all the clinics on this list will have vaccine. We strongly encourage you to call either these sites or your local provider for the latest information on vaccine availability.**

You will also find contact information for the Centers for Disease Control, New York State Department of Health, and the New York State Office of the Aging. Important updates and recommendations can be found on these websites. I hope that you find this information helpful.

### **Background**

As you may know, almost half of the nation's flu vaccine will not be delivered this year. Chiron, a major manufacturer of flu vaccine, will not be distributing any influenza vaccine this flu season. Chiron was contracted to make 46-48 million doses of vaccine for the United States.

On October 12, 2004, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Aventis Pasteur announced the first phase of a plan to allocate influenza vaccine in response to the recently announced loss of half of the nation's expected flu vaccine supply for the 2004-2005 season. The plan, announced by CDC Director Dr. Julie Gerberding and Aventis Pasteur US President Damian Braga, calls for CDC to work closely with Aventis to distribute in phases 22.4 million doses of unshipped vaccine to identified areas of need throughout the country.

Health departments throughout the United States are trying to make sure that as many high-risk people as possible will eventually be able to go to either their regular vaccine provider or to an approved flu shot clinic to get the vaccine. Due to the current shortage, immediate vaccine supplies vary by state and locality.

### **When to get Vaccinated**

October or November is the best time to get vaccinated, but you can still get vaccinated in December and later. Flu season can begin as early as October and last as late as May.

### **Who Should Get Vaccinated**

Because of a shortfall in flu shot production for this season, CDC is recommending that certain people be given priority for getting the flu shot. People in the following groups should seek vaccination this season:

- all children aged 6–23 months;
- adults aged 65 years and older;
- persons aged 2–64 years with underlying chronic medical conditions;

- all women who will be pregnant during the influenza season;
- residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities;
- children aged 6 months–18 years on chronic aspirin therapy;
- health-care workers involved in direct patient care; and
- out-of-home caregivers and household contacts of children aged <6 months.

If you are in one of the priority groups above, but are unable to be vaccinated by your regular healthcare provider, you may find the attached list of additional vaccine locations helpful.

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** These are people who are at high risk for serious flu complications or are in contact with people at high risk for serious flu complications. According to the CDC, people who are not included in one of the priority groups listed above are asked to forego or defer vaccination because of the vaccine supply situation.

### **Who Should Not Be Vaccinated**

There are some people who should not be vaccinated. These include:

- People who have a severe allergy to chicken eggs.
- People who have had a severe reaction to an influenza vaccination in the past.
- People who developed Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) within 6 weeks of getting an influenza vaccine previously.
- Children less than 6 months of age.
- People who are sick with a fever. (These people can get vaccinated once their symptoms lessen.)

### **Getting Flu Vaccines**

Individuals are encouraged to contact their local health department and to ask their regular vaccine provider about other options for influenza vaccination. A number of facilities throughout New York State are currently administering the flu vaccine. You may find the following resources useful while locating public vaccination clinics in your area.

#### **NYC Residents:**

##### **New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**

- On the website, <http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/imm/fluhome.html> , click on the Flu Vaccine Locator heading to find available public clinics and senior centers.
- You may also wish to call 311 for additional information on available public clinics.

#### **For NYS Residents:**

##### **New York State Department of Health**

- You may locate your county health department through the State's website at <http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/flu/index.htm> to find clinics and senior centers in your area.

- You may also contact the NYSDOH Immunization Program at 518-473-4437.

**National Association of County and City Health Officials**

- For up to date information on local public health vaccine programs in Clinton County, Jefferson County, Niagara Country, Suffolk County, and Wayne County, please feel free to consult this detailed website at <http://archive.naccho.org/influenza/clearinghouse/default.asp> . Additional information may be posted in the future.

**Important Information for Everyone:  
Centers for Disease Control**

For more information, you may wish to contact the CDC Immunization Hotline at (800) 232-2522 (Espanol: (800) 232-0233). Important updates and recommendations can also be found on the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu> .

**American Lung Association**

For information on high priority group guidelines and locations of flu clinics, please feel free to review <http://www.lungusa.org> or call the American Lung Association's Flu Clinic at 1-800-LUNG-USA.

**New York State Office for the Aging**

For additional vaccine updates and flu prevention information, you may consult the NYSOA website at <http://www.flu.state.ny.us/>.

**Flu Vaccine Clinics in New York State:**

The following list includes information from local Departments of Health, local clinics, and senior centers that indicated they had supplies of the vaccine as of **Monday, November 1. However, since vaccine supplies can change from day to day, we cannot ensure that all the clinics on this list will have vaccine. We encourage you to call either these sites or your local provider for the latest information on vaccine availability.**

**NEW YORK CITY**

**Bronx:**

Tremont Health Center  
1826 Arthur Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10457  
212-676-2273 (Immunization Hotline)  
Clinics: Tue, Wed, Thurs 8:30 am-2:30 pm. (Adults and Children over 4 years of age)

**Brooklyn:**

St.Louis Senior Center  
(718) 771-7945 First come first serve.  
Clinic: November 17<sup>th</sup>

Crown Heights Health Center  
1218 Prospect Place, 2nd Flr. (Troy Ave.) Brooklyn, NY 11213 (718) 735-5030  
Clinics: Mon, Fri 8:30 am-2:30 pm (Note: Adults only)  
Wed 8:30 am-2:30 pm (Note: Children only)

Homecrest Health Center  
1601 Avenue South  
Brooklyn, NY 11229  
(718) 692-9558 NOT PICKING UP  
Clinic: Monday (Nov. 1), Wednesday (Nov. 3), Friday (Nov. 5) 8:30am

Homecrest Health Center  
1601 Avenues S-1<sup>st</sup> Fl, Brooklyn, NY 11229  
Clinic: Wednesday (Nov. 3) Adults Only

**Manhattan:**

Chelsea Health Center  
303 Ninth Avenue  
Manhattan, NY 10001  
(212) 594-1351

Clinics: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 8:30 am-2:30 pm (On Monday, Nov. 1 and Friday Nov. 5, flu vaccinations for adults only will take place at Chelsea Recreation Center, 430 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street).

**Queens:**

Allen Community Senior Citizens Center  
166-01 Linden Boulevard  
Jamaica, NY 11434  
(718) 658-0980  
Clinic: November 16<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm-2:30pm

Corona Health Center  
34-33 Junction Blvd- 1<sup>st</sup> Fl., Queens, NY 11372  
Clinic: Thursday (Nov. 4) 8:30am **\*Location on Thursday, Nov. 4 will be announced.**  
**Visit [nyc.gov/health](http://nyc.gov/health) or call 311 for updates\***

Jamaica Health Center  
90-37 Parsons Blvd- 4<sup>th</sup> Fl., Queens, NY 11432  
Clinic: Friday (Nov. 5) 8:30am

**Staten Island:**

Richmond Health Center  
51 Stuyvesant Place, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor St. George, NY 10301  
(718) 420-4994  
Clinic: Mon (Nov. 1) 6:00 am-2:30 pm (Note: Elderly and Adults with Chronic Illnesses only)

## **NEW YORK STATE REGIONAL LOCATIONS**

### **Greater Capital Region and Hudson Valley**

#### **Albany County:**

Although the Albany County Health Department does not currently have flu vaccine available for public clinics, health department officials are working with county, state, and federal officials to locate and redistribute vaccine and make it available to priority groups established by the CDC. For more information, please call Albany County Health Department Flu Hotline at (518) 447-4505.

#### **Columbia County:**

Individuals may contact the Columbia County Department of Health at (518) 828-3358 for more information on scheduled flu clinics in their area.

#### **Delaware County:**

Individuals may contact the Delaware County Public Health Department at (607) 746-3166 for more information on scheduled flu clinics in their area. They may also call the Delaware County Office for the Aging at (607) 746-6333 for updates on senior health centers administering the flu vaccine.

#### **Dutchess County:**

Individuals may contact the Dutchess County Department of Health at (845) 486-3435 for updated information on scheduled flu clinics in their area. In addition, the Dutchess County Department of Health Flu Hotline (845) 486-3435 will be updated regularly. Please use this number to find out the latest updates to our flu vaccine clinic schedule and the flu vaccine shortage.

#### **Greene County:**

Though public health officials indicate that Greene County Health Department has filled all flu vaccination appointments, individuals may contact Greene County Public Health Nursing at (518) 943-6591 for more updates on flu clinics in their area.

#### **Montgomery County:**

Individuals may contact Montgomery County Public Health at (518) 853-3531 for more information on flu clinics in their area.

#### **Orange County:**

Due to the national vaccine shortage, the Orange County Department of Health has cancelled its previously scheduled flu clinics. The Health Department has focused its attention on getting the early supplies of flu vaccine to the highest risk residents – hospitals, long-term care facilities, young children and health providers. Individuals may contact Orange County Health Department at (845) 291-2332 for flu vaccine updates.

#### **Otsego County:**

Individuals may contact Otsego County Department of Health at (607) 547-6458 for more information on flu clinics in their area. Bassett Healthcare has offered a limited

number of flu clinics, based on vaccine supply. Individuals may also wish to check for updates on Bassett clinics administering flu vaccine t 1-800-BASSETT.

**Putnam County:**

Individuals may call the Putnam County Flu Vaccine Hotline at (845) 278-6130 to receive 24-hour information on flu vaccine availability. They may also contact the Putnam County Health Department at (845) 278-6130 for information on vaccine supply in their area.

**Rensselaer County:**

Individuals may contact the Rensselaer County Department of Health at (518) 270-2626 for updated information on vaccine supply in their area.

**Rockland County:**

Individuals may contact the Rockland County Health Department at (845) 364-2512 for updated information on vaccine supply in their area.

**Saratoga County:**

Individuals may contact Saratoga County Public Health Department at (518) 584-7460 for updated information on vaccine supply in their area.

**Schenectady County:**

Schenectady County Health Department has no scheduled flu clinics currently. Individuals may contact the Schenectady County Health Department at (518) 386-2810 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Schoharie County:**

Individuals may contact the Schoharie County Department of Health at (518) 295-8365 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Sullivan County:**

Individuals may contact Sullivan County Public Health Nursing at (845) 292-0100 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Ulster County:**

Individuals may contact Ulster County Health Department at (607) 274-6674 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Washington County:**

Individuals may contact Washington County Public Health Service at (518) 746-2400 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Westchester County:**

Residents may call Westchester's Flu InfoLine at (914) 813-5609 to stay updated on availability of flu vaccine in their area. They may also contact the Westchester County Department of Health at (914) 813-5000 for updates on flu clinics in their area.

## **Buffalo/Western New York**

### **Allegany County:**

Though Allegany County Department of Health has currently cancelled all flu clinics due to vaccine shortage, individuals may contact Allegany County Department of Health at (585) 268-9250 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

### **Chautauqua County:**

Individuals may contact the Chautauqua County Health Department at (716) 753-4314 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

### **Cattaraugus County:**

Individuals may contact the Cattaraugus County Health Department at (716) 373-8050 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

### **Erie County:**

Individuals may contact the Erie County Department of Health at (716) 858-2929 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

### **Niagara County:**

Individuals may contact the Niagara County Health Department at (716) 278-1900 or check <http://www.niagaracounty.com> for updates on vaccine supply in their area

### **Wyoming County:**

Individuals may contact the Wyoming County Health Department at (585) 786-8890 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

## **Long Island**

### **Nassau County:**

Due to vaccine shortage, the Nassau County Health Department has temporarily postponed all scheduled flu clinics. Individuals may contact the Nassau County Department of Health at (516) 571-2260 for updated information on flu clinics in their area.

### **Suffolk County:**

Due to the shortage and unavailability of flu vaccine, the Suffolk County Department of Health Services is no longer holding influenza immunization clinics for the current season. If flu vaccine becomes available, clinics will be scheduled and announced. Individuals may contact the Suffolk County Department of Health at (631) 853-3005 for these updates.

## **North Country**

### **Clinton County:**

Individuals may contact the Clinton County Department of Health Information Line at (518) 565-4840 for updates on vaccine supply in their area. For additional information, they may also contact the Health Department's Immunization Information Line at (518) 565-4490.

**Essex County:**

Individuals may contact the Essex County Public Health Department at (518) 873-3500 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Franklin County:**

Individuals may contact Franklin County Public Health Services at (518) 481-1710 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Fulton County:**

Individuals may contact the Fulton County Public Health Department at (518) 736-5720 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Hamilton County:**

Individuals may contact the Fulton County Public Health Department at (518) 648-6141 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Herkimer County:**

Individuals may contact Herkimer County Public Health Nursing Service at (315) 867-1176 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Jefferson County:**

Individuals may contact Jefferson County Public Health Service at (315) 786-3710 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Lewis County:**

Individuals may contact Lewis County Public Health Agency at (315) 376-5453 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**St. Lawrence County:**

Individuals may contact St. Lawrence County Public Health Department at (315) 386-2325 for updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Warren County:**

Individuals may contact Warren County Health Services at (518) 761-6415 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Greater Rochester Region**

**Genesee County:**

Individuals may contact the Genesee County Public Health Department at (7585) 344-8506 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Livingston County:**

Individuals may contact the Livingston County Department of Health at (585) 243-7270 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Monroe County:**

Individuals may contact the Monroe County Health Department at (585) 274-6068 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Ontario County:**

Individuals may contact Ontario County Community Health Services at (716) 396-4343 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Orleans County:**

Individuals may contact the Orleans County Health Department at (716) 589-3278 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Wayne County:**

Individuals may contact Wayne County Public Health Service at (315) 946-5749 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Yates County:**

Individuals may contact the Yates County Health Department at (315) 536-5160 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Syracuse****Broome County:**

Residents may call the Health Department Hotline at: (607) 778-3911. Similar information is available at: <http://www.gobroomecounty.com> . Currently there are no clinics scheduled, and there is no vaccination on hand.

**Cayuga County:**

Currently there are no clinics scheduled, and there is no vaccine on hand. Residents may look in the local newspaper for any updates. The Health Department number is (607) 253-1560.

**Chemung County:**

Individuals may contact the Chemung County Health Department at (607) 737-2028 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Chenango County:**

Individuals may contact the Chenango County Health Department at (607) 337-1660 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Cortland County:**

According to Cortland County Health officials, all of the senior clinics are on hold. Residents should also look to the local newspaper, as well as listen to the radio, for any updates. The Health Department number is (607) 753-5203.

**Madison County:**

The Madison County Health Department is still waiting to hear if any vaccine will be allotted to the County. Residents may inquire at the local TOPS to see if they still have any vaccinations available, and they may continue looking in the local newspaper for any updates. They may also contact the Madison County Health Department number at (315) 366-2361 for updates on flu vaccine supply.

**Oneida County:**

Individuals may contact the Oneida County Health Department at (315) 798-6400 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Onondaga County:**

Residents may call the Health Department Hotline at: (315) 435-3252. There are only a small number of clinics still scheduled, and the clinics each have a very limited amount of vaccine. Only residents meeting the CDC high-risk criteria will be given vaccinations. Priority, or numbers, given to residents meeting these criteria will not begin before the start time for each scheduled clinic.

**Oswego County:**

Though County Health officials indicate that the Health Department does not currently have any vaccine, individuals may contact the Oswego County Health Department at (315) 349-3540 for updates on flu vaccine supply.

**Schuyler County:**

Individuals may contact the Schuyler County Home Health Agency at (607) 535-8140 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Seneca County:**

Individuals may contact the Seneca County Health Department at (315) 539-1920 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Steuben County:**

Individuals may contact Steuben County Public Health & Nursing Services at (607) 776-9631 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Tioga County:**

Individuals may contact Tioga County Health Department at (607) 687-8600 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

**Tompkins County:**

Individuals may contact Tompkins County Health Department at (607) 274-6674 for latest updates on vaccine supply in their area.

## **Flu Vaccine Recommendations for the 2004-2005 Flu Season**

### **What is Flu?**

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is to get the flu vaccine each fall.

Every year in the United States, on average:

- 5% to 20% of the population gets the flu
- More than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications, and
- Approximately 36,000 people die from flu.

Some people are at high risk for serious flu complications, such as older people, young children, and people with certain health conditions, including pregnancy.

### **Symptoms & Complications of Flu**

Symptoms of flu include:

- Fever (usually high)
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Extreme tiredness
- Sore throat
- Dry cough
- Gastro-intestinal symptoms

Some of the complications caused by the flu include bacterial pneumonia, dehydration, and worsening of chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, asthma, or diabetes. Children may get sinus problems and ear infections.

### **Preventing the Flu**

The single best way to prevent the flu is to get a flu vaccine each fall. Although vaccination is the best protection against influenza, everyone can take practical steps to help prevent spread of flu, such as avoiding close contact with people who are sick and keeping your distance from others if you're sick; when possible, staying home from work, school, and errands when you are sick; covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, and cleaning your hands often. Other good habits, such as getting plenty of sleep, engaging in physical activity, managing stress, drinking water, and eating good food, will help you stay healthy in the winter and all year.

## Flu Vaccine

There are two types of vaccines:

- The "flu shot" -- an inactivated vaccine (containing dead influenza virus) that is given with a needle. The flu shot is approved for use in people older than 6 months, including healthy people and people with chronic medical conditions.
- The nasal-spray flu vaccine -- a vaccine made with live, weakened flu viruses that do not cause the flu (sometimes called LAIV for "Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine"). LAIV is approved for use in healthy people 5 years to 49 years of age who are not pregnant.