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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**H1N1 VACCINATION NOW OPEN TO ALL COUNTY RESIDENTS  
 Wristbands for Available Doses to be Distributed Starting Thursday for Friday’s Clinic**

YPSILANTI, Mich., Dec 8, 2009 —Washtenaw County Public Health Department is now offering the H1N1 vaccination to all interested persons in Washtenaw County. Until now and because of limited supplies, Public Health has focused on vaccinating those at highest risk of severe complications according to CDC guidelines. Public Health will offer H1N1 vaccinations on Friday, Dec 11<sup>th</sup> at Eastern Michigan University (EMU) Convocation Center located at 799 N. Hewitt, Ypsilanti MI 48197. Vaccinations will begin at 1:00 pm and continue until 7:00 pm, or until the last person with a wristband is served. Wristbands will be available on Thursday and Friday, while supplies last.

**Wristband Distribution**

Location	Date	Time
EMU Convocation Center 799 N. Hewitt, Ypsilanti MI 48197	Thurs, Dec 10	10:00 am – 12:00 noon 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Washtenaw County Western Service Center 705 N. Zeeb Rd, Ann Arbor MI 48103	Thurs, Dec 10	10:00 am – 12:00 noon 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
At Friday’s clinic wristbands will be available starting at 12:00 noon. Vaccinations begin at 1:00 pm.		

“We are very pleased to be able to offer H1N1 vaccination to the whole community,” said Dr. Diana Torres-Burgos, MD, MPH, Medical Director for Washtenaw County Public Health. “This allows us to provide more H1N1 vaccinations before the holidays and to more fully protect our community during the flu season.” Local hospitals, universities and some community health care providers also continue to offer H1N1 vaccines, she said. H1N1 vaccine supplies are increasing locally; additional supplies are arriving weekly and are distributed or administered promptly.

As with previous H1N1 clinics, a wristband indicates that a dose of vaccine is available for the individual wearing the wristband. Wristbands also significantly reduce waiting times. On average, people with wristbands have only waited about an hour for vaccination at the last several H1N1 clinics for priority groups.

Wristbands are first come, first served. They are only available while supplies last. Wristbands may be picked up for others. A parent or guardian must accompany minors under 18 during vaccination. An individual must be wearing a wristband to receive an H1N1 vaccination.

There will be some sheltered space for waiting once the clinic opens. All persons are asked to dress appropriately for the weather. Public Health will provide both H1N1 flu shots and the FluMist (nasal spray) at Friday's clinic. Preservative free, injectable H1N1 vaccine is not currently available at the scheduled clinic.

The H1N1 vaccine is free to the public. Local public health departments do not charge for the vaccine or for administering it. Private health care providers may charge an administration fee.

Public Health officials strongly encourage people to get the H1N1 influenza vaccine. It is the best way to prevent getting sick from the flu virus. While all Washtenaw County residents are now eligible for vaccine, Public Health officials continue to urge those individuals in the priority groups to get vaccinated if they have not done so already.

In addition, two doses of the H1N1 vaccine are required for children under 10 years of age. The doses should be separated by four weeks (28 days). Doses must be separated by a minimum of 21 days.

The H1N1 vaccine is made in the same way and by the same U.S. manufacturers as the seasonal flu vaccine. Seasonal flu vaccines have an excellent safety record.

For updates to the H1N1 vaccination clinic schedule, visit [www.ewashtenaw.org/flu](http://www.ewashtenaw.org/flu). Public health nurses and health educators are available to answer more detailed questions 734-544-6700.

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