

Plan for Vaccinating Stark County Residents 10/23/2009 (posted to website)

The vaccine is arriving from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) in small quantities. It is now being distributed to identified priority groups established by the CDC and ODH. Eventually there will be enough vaccine for everyone but at this time due to the limited supply it is only to be distributed to priority groups.

Firm clinic dates for the general public are not established at this time. This is because we do not have assurance of how much vaccine will be available. Clinic dates will be posted to the website once the amount of vaccine can be confirmed.

The priority groups and plans for the distribution of this vaccine are as follows:

- **First responders and EMS:** Vaccination of this population began this week and clinics were held for 3 days at 5 locations in the county.
- **Health care workers:** A health care worker is defined as someone that provides DIRECT patient care. Office staff are not included in this group. Some health care workers are being vaccinated through their places of employment. A clinic is being held on Wednesday, October 28th from 9 am to 8pm in the third floor conference room of the Stark County Health Department for health care workers only. On the same date and time a clinic is also being held at the Canton City Health Departments for health care workers only.
- **Pregnant Women:** If the pregnant woman attends the Stark County Health Department prenatal clinic the vaccine will be given to them once it becomes available. Other pregnant women will need to check with their health care provider as some of them are giving the vaccine. If it is determined that their health care provider is not going to distribute the vaccine then they should continue to check the website for a clinic date to be established to receive the vaccine.
- **School age children:** This group of children will be immunized through their local school district in the Stark County Health Department jurisdiction. If a student attends a city school they will need to check with their respective city health department for their plan. As the supply of vaccine becomes available parents will be notified through their school when the dates for the clinics will be held in November. Parents must complete the paperwork from their school to receive the vaccine from the health department.

The Stark County Health Department offered all schools the option to have a school based clinic for their children to receive the vaccine. Parents need to check with their schools to determine if they are allowing the health department to come in and vaccinate the children. If they are not, then these children will be able to go to a community clinic to be scheduled in November.

- **Young children, caregivers, and household contacts of young children:** For the school districts in Stark County that are having an elementary school clinic, if a family member of a student is in a priority group then that family member can attend that school clinic. If not, then they will be scheduled into a community clinic in November.
- **Those with chronic health conditions:** Those with chronic health conditions will need to check with their health care provider first to determine if they will be receiving the vaccine from them. If not, then they will be able to attend a community clinic to be scheduled in November. Continue to check the website for clinic information.
- **The General Public:** For the general public that does not fall into any priority group, clinics will be scheduled as the vaccine becomes available in December. Continue to check the website for further clinic information.

* All of these plans are based on the availability of vaccine.