



WILL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT & COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

October 21, 2009

TO: Will County Public Safety Community

FROM: John Cicero, Executive Director

RE: H1N1 Vaccination

The purpose of this memo is to clarify some issues surrounding the administration of the H1N1 vaccine for the Public Safety community. As you may have heard, the H1N1 vaccine is on its way to local health departments, hospitals, and certain healthcare providers that have registered to receive the vaccine. In light of the vaccine arrival, there have been many questions as to the distribution priority. To clarify, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) has specified the following groups, based on H1N1 risk, as priority groups to receive the vaccine in the first round of delivery:

- Pregnant women;
- Anyone who cares for children younger than 6 months of age;
- Healthcare and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel;
- Young people between the ages of 6 months and 24 years;
- People younger than 64 years of age with chronic medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, compromised immune systems, or heart disease.

For EMS personnel, administration of the vaccine is handled through their respective EMS system office (e.g., Will/Grundy EMS, etc.) Unless some of your personnel fall into one of the above categories, the CDC has not identified the Public Safety community as a priority group at this time. When additional vaccine becomes available, those not presently in a priority group will be notified of additional locations where they may then obtain the vaccine.

Your agency may have personnel that fall into one of the above categories which make them eligible to receive the vaccine. Attached is a flyer where local Vaccination Clinics will be held for those personnel as well as members of the general public that are in a priority group. Please feel free to distribute this flyer further. Also, if you would like updates concerning H1N1 please visit our website at www.willcountyhealth.org.

Thank you, we greatly appreciate our Public Safety community. We will work as fast as we can to take care of your agency as the vaccination process unfolds.

