

November 18, 2009

Dear Parent, Guardian or Student

KFL&A Public Health will be conducting a Pandemic H1N1 Influenza Immunization Clinic for students and staff at your secondary school. Getting the H1N1 influenza vaccine is the best way to protect against pandemic H1N1 influenza. The Canadian Paediatric Society and the National Advisory Committee on Immunization strongly recommend it. Please refer to the KFL&A Public health website www.kflapublichealth.ca for information regarding pH1N1 influenza and the vaccine.

Enclosed is the important information for you and your daughter or son to review.

- 1. Vaccine fact sheet**
- 2. The Consent Form that must be completed, and signed by parents of students under 18 years.**
- 3. The time and date of the clinic at your school.**

If a person has had influenza-like illness, thought to be pH1N1 influenza, should they receive the vaccine? The pH1N1 influenza vaccine is recommended for persons who have experienced an influenza-like illness since March 2009 that was not confirmed by a laboratory test. It is also recommended for persons who received oseltamivir (Tamiflu), even if it was lab confirmed influenza. There are no expected adverse effects if pH1N1 influenza vaccine is given to people with prior undocumented pH1N1 influenza infection. Persons who have laboratory-confirmed pH1N1 influenza infection do not need to have this vaccine, as they will have developed a protective immune response to the virus from the infection.

Can the vaccine cause influenza? The vaccine does not cause influenza because it does not contain live virus.

How long after I receive the vaccine will I be protected? It takes about two weeks after immunization to develop protection against influenza and protection may last up to one year.

On the Day of your scheduled immunization clinic:

- Please bring the signed consent form to the scheduled clinic. Please note that students must be 18 and older to sign their own consents.**
- Wear a short sleeved shirt.**
- Remember: Eat a good breakfast!**

For a list of other Pandemic H1N1 Influenza Immunization Community Clinic dates and locations as they become available, visit KFL&A Public Health's website at www.kflapublichealth.ca or call the Influenza Information Hotline at 613-549-5923 or 1-800-267-7875, ext. 500.

Sincerely

Dr. Gemmill

Original signed by Dr. Gemmill

KINGSTON, FRONTENAC AND LENNOX & ADDINGTON PUBLIC HEALTH

Main Office

221 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, Ontario K7M 1V5
Tel: 613-549-1232 1-800-267-7875
Fax: 613-549-7896 www.kflapublichealth.ca



Branch Offices

Cloyne	Tel: 613-336-8989	Fax: 613-336-0522
Sharbot Lake	Tel: 613-279-2151	Fax: 613-279-3997
Napanee	Tel: 613-354-3357	Fax: 613-354-6267