



Town of Lexington
Office of Community Development
 Health Division
 1625 Massachusetts Avenue
 Lexington, MA 02420
 (781)-862-0500 x 200
 Fax (781)-861-2780

Gerard F. Cody, R.E.H.S./R.S.
 Health Director

David Neylon, R.N.
 Public Health Nurse

Kathy P. Fox, C.H.O., C.F.S.P.
 Environmental Health Agent

Board of Health

Wendy Heiger-Bernays, PhD, Chair
 Sharon MacKenzie, R.N., CCM
 Burt M. Perlmutter, M.D.
 Deborah Thompson, ScD.

Live Intranasal Seasonal Vaccine (Flumist) Clinics are confirmed on October 30th and 31st at Cary Hall for those who are 2-49 years of Age, healthy and not pregnant. H1N1 Vaccine is still not available.

Live Intranasal Seasonal Flu vaccine (Flumist) is approved to only those Lexington residents and non-residents who are two (2) years through forty- nine (49) years of age, healthy, (do not have certain medical or health conditions) and are not pregnant. This clinic is a free service sponsored by the Office of Community Development, Health Division, and the Board of Health.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Ages</u>	<u>Vaccine Type offered at the clinic.</u>
October 30, 2009 (Friday)	Cary Hall, 1625 Massachusetts Avenue	1:00 PM 3:00 PM	2 – 49 years of age	<i>Live Intranasal Seasonal Influenza Vaccine (also known as Flumist)</i>
October 31, 2009 (Saturday)	Cary Hall, 1625 Massachusetts Avenue	10:00AM 12:30 PM	2 – 49 years of age	<i>Live Intranasal Seasonal Influenza Vaccine (also known as Flumist)</i>
December 2, 2009 (Wednesday)	TBA	TBA	2-24 years of age	TBA

Note: “Flumist” or nasal spray type seasonal influenza vaccine does not contain *thimerosal* or other preservatives.

Note: Should there be a deviation from the schedule due to the vaccine delivery delay, the new dates will be posted on the Town of Lexington website and other local media outlets.

Important Information for your to know about the clinics.

On October 20, 2009, the Town of Lexington has received a sufficient amount of *Live Attenuated Intranasal Vaccine, (LAIV) or “Flumist” Influenza vaccine* to conduct public clinics at Cary Hall, 1605 Massachusetts Avenue on Friday October 30, 2009 and Saturday October 31,

2009. Live Intranasal Seasonal Flu vaccine (Flumist) is approved to only those citizens who are two (2) years through forty nine (49) years of age, who are not pregnant and do not have certain medical or health conditions.

Additional shipments of Inactivated influenza vaccine (inject able) or sometimes called the “flu shot” vaccine is expected to arrive over the next four (4) to Six (6) weeks with the balance of the inactivated vaccine arriving at the end of November.

“It is important to remember that the seasonal vaccines, no matter what type, are formulated to prevent annual flu. They do not protect against pandemic or Novel H1N1 influenza. Since there is a delay in the distribution of H1N1 vaccine at the national level, our ability to conduct H1N1 vaccination clinics locally has been impacted.” said Gerard Cody, Health Director.

“Since the Flumist requires a thirty day waiting period before receiving the H1N1 vaccine in the mist format, now is the perfect time to receive seasonal flu mist for those who are eligible. It is most likely at least another thirty days before H1N1 vaccine arrives in sufficient quantities at the Lexington Board of Health to hold a public clinic specifically for H1N1 vaccine” said Gerard Cody, Health Director.

Upon arrival at Cary Hall

We ask that adults eighteen (18) years through forty-nine (49) years of age enter Cary Hall from the right front entrance (when facing Cary Hall from Massachusetts Ave) and bear to the right, not entering the auditorium, but the hallway beyond it to pick up forms for registration. They will continue down the hallway and enter the auditorium at the stage area.

In an effort to keep families together, we ask that adults with children two (2) to seventeen (17) years old enter Cary Hall from the Left front entrance (when facing Cary Hall from Massachusetts Ave) and bear to the left, not entering the auditorium, but the hallway beyond it to pick up forms for registration. They will continue down the hallway and enter the auditorium at the stage area.

For those with mobility issues or homebound, please contact the Health Division (as listed below) for alternative means to obtain a flu vaccine, including, but not limited to drive-up service at the event.

There will be Town of Lexington Health Division staff and Medical Reserve Corps volunteers wearing white vests and identification badges to answer any of your questions.

Upcoming Events

Flu: What You Can Do - Caring for People at Home Thursday, October 22, 2009 at Cary Hall 1605 Massachusetts Avenue from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Learn about flu prevention, caring for someone with the flu, and preparing for flu season. It is also applicable to a pandemic situation where hospitals and clinics may already be at full capacity.

Summary

“As you are aware, the seasonal influenza vaccine is in short supply and H1N1 vaccine has not been distributed yet for widespread use. Much like pediatricians or other doctor's offices, the

Prepared by: Gerard Cody, Health Director and David Neylon, Public Health Nurse

Lexington Health Division or Board of Health does not have any additional resources to obtain vaccine. It is a nation wide shortage starting at the site of production. Our Public Clinics are intended to be another source but not the primary source for those who would like to be vaccinated.

When these clinics are scheduled and planned, it is assumed that we will have vaccine by the time the date arrives. As of today, I still do not have the entire allotment or supply of vaccine that has been ordered

Since vaccine for public use is purchased at the State level (Massachusetts Department of Public Health) with public funding, the vaccine is distributed to citizens of the Commonwealth through the Local Board of Health. The primary target groups for the early seasonal flu clinics have been established at a national level through the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Those with complex medical conditions, which may prevent them from attending the public clinic, are able to contact this office to make other arrangements with the Public Health Nurse.

As vaccine becomes available, (for both Seasonal and H1N1 vaccine) other clinics will be announced with more convenient times (late afternoon / early evenings). The staff for these clinics are primarily composed of Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) volunteers who are licensed and insured medical providers who donate their time (at no cost to the Town of Lexington) for the public good.

The good news is that it is still early to be vaccinated for Seasonal and H1N1 influenza. The normal seasonal influenza season usually lasts from late December through early April. It takes up to two weeks for the protection to develop after the vaccination and it can offer protection for almost up to a year.” Said Gerard Cody, Health Director.

For More Information

Regular Updates will be posted on the Town of Lexington website site at <http://ci.lexington.ma.us/portal/news-events.cfm>. In addition, the Department of Public Health has a *Novel H1N1 Influenza Virus* hotline, which has been set up to help answer any general questions about the disease. Call 1-866-627-7968 and dial 1, or simply dial 211 to access the hotline. To receive a free copy of “*Caring for People at Home, Flu – What you can Do.*” please contact the Office of *Community Development, Health Division*, Gerard Cody, Health Director at 781-862-0500 x 237. You may also visit, www.cdc.gov/swineflu or www.mass.gov/dph/flu. The Lexington Board of Health brought this important message to you.