



For Immediate Release

December 11, 2009

Health District Holiday Vaccine Location

Galveston County and Cities – Beginning December 14th, The Galveston County Health District (GCHD) will be consolidating all immunization activities at their La Marque Headquarters for three weeks until the beginning of the New Year.

From Dec 14th through Dec 31st, all vaccines will be available at GCHD La Marque Headquarters at 1207 Oak Street in La Marque from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays. Small immunization clinics in Dickinson, Galveston and Texas City will be closed until Monday, January 4th. During this time period, the La Marque location will be offering free H1N1 vaccinations for anyone that would like to receive one, and other routine vaccinations according to usual fees.

Since the H1N1 season, GCHD has vaccinated over 10,000 individuals for H1N1. Last week, GCHD experienced a decrease in numbers of persons seeking the vaccine as well as numbers of reported cases of flu-like illnesses. "While we are currently seeing a decrease in the number of reported H1N1 cases, keep in mind that it is not too late to get vaccinated and we may see another increase in reported cases before winter is over. The most effective way to prevent H1N1 flu is to get vaccinated," says Dr. Mark Guidry, GCHD CEO and Galveston County Health Authority.

District officials also encourage everyone to stay informed, and practice good hygiene habits to reduce the spread of H1N1 and seasonal flu. Recommended actions include covering the mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing and sneezing, and frequent hand washing. If soap and water are not available a hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol should be used.

Normal immunizations operations will resume on January 4th. For more information about Galveston County Health District Immunization activities and vaccine supply call (409) 938-7221 or visit www.gchd.org/chn/IMM.htm.

The Galveston County Health District strives to protect and promote public health for all residents of Galveston County and cities.

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