

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 4, 2010

Southern Nevada Health District to offer seasonal flu shots, Oct. 11

LAS VEGAS – The Southern Nevada Health District will begin to offer seasonal flu shots to the public at 8 a.m. Monday, Oct. 11. Flu shots are \$32, the inhaled flu vaccine is \$43, and the new high-dose shot for people 65 and older is \$50.55. Pneumonia shots will also be available. For more information, contact the health district's immunization clinic at (702) 759-0850 or visit <u>www.SNHD.info</u>.

There are no anticipated vaccine shortages of the seasonal flu shots this season and the health district encourages everyone to get a flu shot, especially high-risk individuals including people age 50 and over, pregnant women, individuals over the age of six months with chronic medical conditions, health care workers, and household contacts of individuals who are at high risk. Additionally, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently recommended that anyone over the age of six months old should receive an annual flu shot.

This year's annual flu shot includes the 2009 H1N1 influenza strain. The health district will also offer the new high-dose flu shot for people 65 and older. This is the first year this vaccine is available and it was developed to induce a stronger immune response in older people. It is only approved for people 65 and over and the health district advises people to speak with their healthcare providers to determine if the new high-dose vaccine is an option for them.

Immunizations are available Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at all health district locations:

- Ravenholt Public Health Center, 625 Shadow Lane, Las Vegas
- East Las Vegas Public Health Center, 560 N. Nellis Blvd., Suite E12, Las Vegas
- Henderson Public Health Center, 520 E. Lake Mead Parkway, Henderson
- Mesquite Public Health Center, 830 Hafen Lane, Mesquite, Tue &Thu 8 a.m.-noon/1 p.m.- 4 p.m.

Methods of payment for flu shots include Medicare Part B, Medicare Railroad Part B, Medicaid, Nevada Medicaid and Check-Up, Amerigroup Community Care Medicaid and Check-Up, or cash (checks are not accepted). Clients must present their Medicare insurance card or Medicaid voucher at the time of service. In addition, the health district will serve as a provider for United Health Care Medicare HMO plans, Health Plan of Nevada and Sierra Health and Life, and HPN Medicaid and Check-Up. For those not covered, who are covered by other insurance providers, or without proof of Medicare or Medicaid insurance, the cost for flu vaccination is \$32 for the shot, \$43 for the inhaled mist.

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Health District to offer seasonal flu shots - add one

The health district reminds residents that it is recommended they get their flu shots early in the season, but it is not necessary to get the vaccine on the very first day it is offered. Flu shots are effective even if individuals wait until December or January.

The health district has scheduled several flu shot clinics. Additional clinics will be posted to the health district website as they are scheduled:

Monday, Oct. 49 a.m. - 1 p.m.Derfelt Senior Center - Individuals age 50 and over3343 W. Washington Ave., (702) 229-6601Flu shots, pneumonia vaccine, shingles vaccine (people age 60+)

Thursday, Oct. 71:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.Centennial Hills Active Adult Center - Individuals age 50 and over6601 N. Buffalo Drive, (702) 229-1702Flu shots, pneumonia vaccine, shingles vaccine (people age 60+)

Tuesday, Oct. 129:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.Las Vegas Senior Center - Individuals age 50 and over451 E. Bonanza Rd., (702) 229-6454Flu shots, pneumonia vaccine, shingles vaccine (people age 60+)

Tuesday, Oct. 26 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Doolittle Senior Center – Individuals age 50 and over APPOINTMENTS NECESSARY – (702) 229 6125 1930 N. "J" Street Flu shots, pneumonia vaccine

To further prevent the spread of the virus: avoid close contact with people who are sick, stay home if you're sick, cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze, wash your hands, and avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

Updated information about the Southern Nevada Health District can be found on Facebook <u>www.facebook.com/SouthernNevadaHealthDistrict</u>, on YouTube <u>www.youtube.com/SNHealthDistrict</u> or Twitter : <u>www.twitter.com/SNHDinfo</u>.

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