

Bay County Health Department

2010-2011 Flu Season

This year the fall flu vaccine will protect against an influenza A H3N2 virus, an influenza B virus, and the 2009 H1N1 virus that caused so much illness last flu season. Certain people are at greater risk for serious complications from the flu. **These include:**

- ✚ Older adults
- ✚ Young children
- ✚ People with chronic lung disease (such as asthma and COPD), diabetes (type 1 and 2), heart disease, neurologic conditions, and certain other long-term health conditions
- ✚ Pregnant women

In addition to the regular flu vaccine, this year there is a **"high dose"** vaccine available to persons over age 65. This vaccine is thought to offer senior citizens more protection against the flu. **The Fluzone High-Dose vaccine will only be offered to persons age 65 or older.**

Children ages (6) months and older are also a high risk group and should be vaccinated against the flu. Children 6 months to 8 years of age getting a flu vaccine for the first time need **(2)** doses, at least 4 weeks apart, the first year they are vaccinated in order to develop immune protection. This includes children who received **(1)** or **(2)** doses of the 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine, who have never received a seasonal flu vaccine.

Children younger than (6) months cannot receive the flu vaccine. It is recommended that parents and caregivers get the flu vaccine as a preventative measure to protect the health of very young infants. Employees of day care centers, as well as parents and informal caregivers of infants, should also get vaccinated.

Some people should talk with a doctor before getting an influenza vaccine. Those with severe allergy to chicken eggs and those with a history of allergic reaction to flu vaccines in the past should not receive the vaccine, but should talk with their doctor about other ways to prevent getting ill with flu. Those who have ever had Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS) should talk with their doctor about the risks and benefits of getting the flu vaccine. Those who are ill with a fever should wait until symptoms pass before getting vaccinated.

2010 Flu Fall Clinics Schedule

Both clinics will be held at:
Bay County Community Center
800 J.F. Kennedy Drive

Clinic 1

Date: Friday, October 22nd

Time: 8:30am - 1:00pm

For: Persons age 65 or older only

Cost: Medicare will be billed. For those without Medicare the cost will be \$25.00 for regular flu vaccine or \$30.00 for Fluzone High-Dose vaccine.



Clinic 2

Date: Wednesday, November 3rd

Time: 1:00pm - 7:00pm

For: Children & Adults

Cost: Insurances will be billed. For those without insurance the cost will be \$25.00.

Clinic date and times are subject to change. Please call BCHD's Health Information line at (989) 895-4192, or visit our website at www.baycounty-mi.gov/Health for updated information.

Looking Back....

2009 H1N1 Community Survey Results

2009 was a unique and challenging year for local public health departments due to a new flu virus called H1N1 or swine flu. H1N1 caused mild to severe illness throughout the United States and numerous countries. Local, State, and Federal public health agencies implemented several emergency response plans.

Bay County was also affected by the new H1N1 flu virus. In Bay County there was 1 death, 3 school closures, and 18 hospitalizations during the 2009-2010 flu season.

In June 2010, the Bay County Health Department conducted a survey with local residents about our response to H1N1. The survey was offered online through Survey Monkey.



Key Survey Findings

- ✦ Among respondents, (47.1%) indicated an immediate family member or themselves received an H1N1 vaccine, whereas, (51.5%) chose not to receive an H1N1 vaccine.
- ✦ Respondents that did not receive an H1N1 vaccine chose not to for a variety of reasons. Among the choices, (42.3%) were unsure about its safety; (46.5%) did not want an H1N1 vaccine; and (29.6%) had never received a flu vaccine before.
- ✦ Overwhelmingly, (80.5%) of respondents indicated they increased “hand washing” to avoid exposure to the flu.
- ✦ Respondents were asked what methods they used most often to find information about the H1N1 flu; (35.5%) selected the television, (23.4%) Other, (11.3%) BCHD Website, (9.2%) BCHD Staff, (9.2%) Family Physician, (8.5%) Newspaper, (2.1%) Radio and (0.7%) used BCHD’s Health Information Line.
- ✦ The methods used most often to find information about H1N1 vaccination clinics were: BCHD website (24.3%), Newspaper (19.9%), Other (19.9%), Television (19.1%), Family Physician (6.6%), BCHD Health Information Line (4.4%), Friend/Neighbor (3.7%), Radio (2.1%) and (0.7%) used Bay 3 TV.

Did You Know? Every H1N1 vaccination administered saved between \$91 and \$141 in direct medical costs.

BCHD’s Response at a Glance

- From mid-October 2009 through mid-December 2009, the BCHD held 18 community H1N1 mass vaccination clinics and administered both the nasal spray vaccine and the flu shot.
- In late November 2009, the BCHD began scheduling H1N1 vaccination appointments for certain days and times of the week. Appointments were regularly scheduled though February 2010. In March 2010, H1N1 appointments were integrated into the daily immunization clinic appointments.
- From January 2010 through April 2010, a team of three to four Health Department staff went out into the community and conducted mobile vaccination clinics. A total of 40 clinics were conducted at schools, large businesses, senior living establishments and low income housing complexes.
- 18,100 doses of H1N1 vaccine were allocated across Bay County.
- 11,622 doses of H1N1 vaccine were allocated to community providers.
- 5662 doses of H1N1 vaccine were administered by the BCHD.
- The duration of the 2009 H1N1 Vaccination Campaign was a total of 456 days.

Looking Back....

2009 H1N1 Community Survey Continued....

Demographics

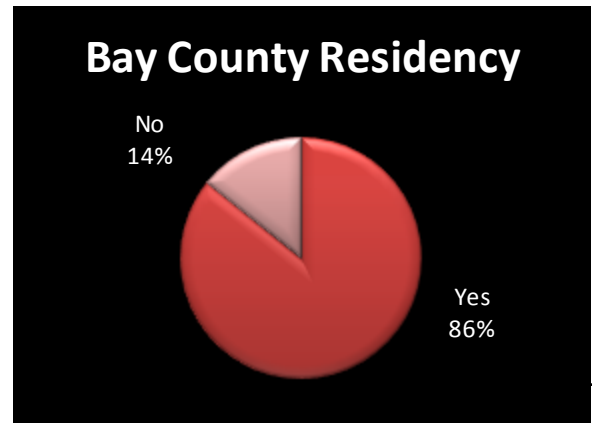
Survey Respondents
(n = 141)

Bay County Census Facts

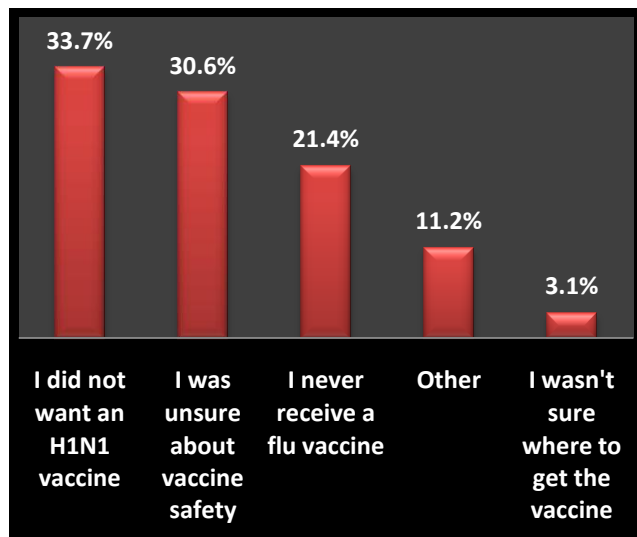
White - 94.2%
Hispanic or Latino - 4.2%
Black or African American - 1.5%
Asian - 0.6%

Estimates based on U.S. Census Bureau 2008 County Quickfacts. (Last revised 23-Feb-2010)

Are You a Bay County Resident?



Why Did You Not Receive the H1N1 Vaccination?



Seventy one (71) respondents out of one hundred forty one (141) indicated they did not get vaccinated.

Top locations residents liked to receive an H1N1 vaccination.

- H1N1 vaccine was provided from various locations throughout the community. Respondents were polled to determine which location they chose to get vaccinated. (26.3%) came directly to BCHD; (12%) attended a mass vaccination clinic conducted by BCHD; (9.5%) went to their family physician or a local physician; (4.5%) hospital, and (1.5%) attended a school-based clinic for students and/or families.

- BCHD uses a variety of methods to deliver information and outreach in the community. In order to gauge the accessibility of our communication methods, respondents indicated the information about the H1N1 flu was easy to locate (42.6%); located with minimal effort (41.9%); located with some effort (10.3%); difficult to locate (2.9%), and not available (2.2%).



- From mid-October through mid-December, the BCHD held 18 community H1N1 mass vaccination clinics and administered both the live, attenuated nasal spray vaccine and the inactivated "flu shot".