

Friday, November 13, 2009

Re: Expansion of H1N1 vaccinations to include school-aged children

Dear Parent:

I am writing to advise that effective immediately, all students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 will be eligible to receive the H1N1 vaccine free of charge at community immunization clinics operated by Vancouver Coastal Health.

Drop-in immunization clinics are being held at the following three locations. Eligible individuals can also be immunized at their family doctor's office.

Pacific Spirit Community Health Centre
2110 West 43rd Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V6M 2E1
604-261-6366

**Mount Pleasant H1N1 Immunization Clinic
(formerly the Mount Pleasant Community Centre)**
3161 Ontario Street, Vancouver, BC, V5T 2Z1
604-709-6400

South Community Health Office
6405 Knight Street, Vancouver, BC, V5P 2V9
604-321-6151

The clinic dates and time are:

Date	Days	Clinic Hours
November 2 to December 19	Monday – Friday	12 noon - 7 p.m.
	Saturday	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

All clinics are on a drop-in basis. Expect line-ups outside. Dress warmly and bring an umbrella. **To help us serve you better:** Remember to wear short sleeves and bring your BC CareCard.

Elementary-school-aged children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian in order to provide consent. Secondary school students do not need to be accompanied by an adult. They will be immunized upon presentation, which is consistent with the provincial practice and BC laws on consent to treatment.

Vancouver Coastal Health has also worked with the Vancouver School Board to schedule a series of school-based immunization clinic starting Wednesday, November 18, 2009, at Vancouver Technical Secondary School. Vancouver students may attend any of the school-based clinics. Students do not need to be enrolled at the host school or be enrolled at one of the host school's feeder schools in order to attend.

Immunization clinics will be held at:

Date	School	Clinic Hours
Nov. 18-19	Vancouver Technical Secondary School	3:30 – 7 p.m.
Nov. 23-24	Kitsilano Secondary School	3:30 – 7 p.m.
Nov. 25-26	Britannia Secondary School	3:30 – 7 p.m.
Nov. 30-Dec. 1	Killarney Secondary School	3:30 – 7 p.m.
Dec. 2-3	John Oliver Secondary School	3:30 – 7 p.m.
Dec. 7-8	Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School	3:30 – 7 p.m.
Dec. 9-10	Eric Hamber Secondary School	3:30 – 7 p.m.
Dec. 14-15	King George Secondary School	3:30 – 7 p.m.

At this writing, healthy adults aged 19-64 years old are **not** included in the population eligible to receive the H1N1 vaccine. Adults attending at these clinics must be a member of a previously or otherwise-announced eligible population in order to be immunized at these clinics.

For more information, visit the ImmunizeBC website at www.immunizebc.ca or call HealthLinkBC at 811. To locate a school clinic near you, the flu indicator at <http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/flu/> will be available starting Monday.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Carsley

Dr. John Carsley,
VCH Medical Health Officer responsible for Vancouver schools