

H1N1 Vaccination Activity Update



As of March 15, 2010, a total of 22,385 doses of H1N1 vaccine have been administered in Dodge, Saunders, and Washington Counties

Local Effect of the H1N1 Virus

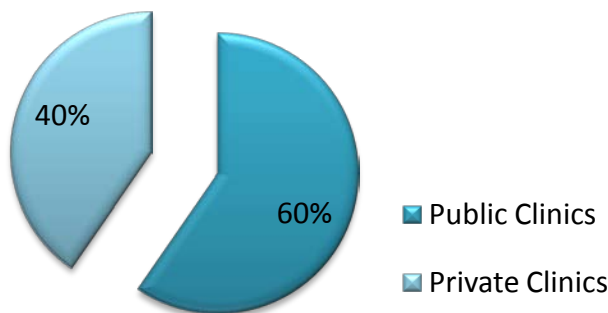
Each week, Three Rivers District Health Department monitors the student absences in the 55 schools of Dodge, Saunders, and Washington Counties. For several weeks in October through November, school absences reached nearly 25% for many schools, with one school reaching 40%. However, there were no school closures thanks to the great work of school staff in containing the spread of the virus.

H1N1 Vaccine

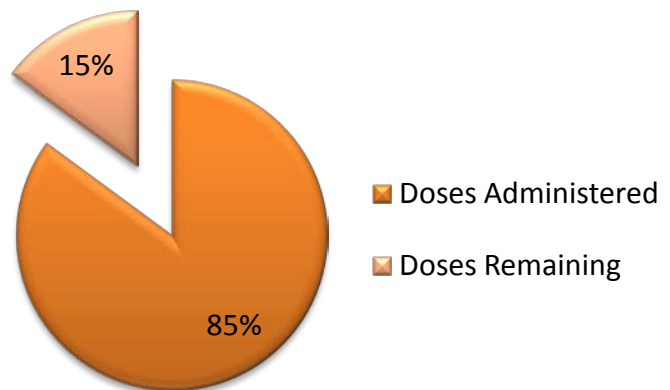
In Nebraska, all of the H1N1 vaccine was distributed through the local health departments. On October 8th, the first shipment of Novel H1N1 vaccine arrived locally. Vaccinations were initially administered based on CDC-defined priority groups.

As of March 15, 2010, Three Rivers District Health Department received 26,335 doses of H1N1 vaccine. The following charts specify the number of doses administered and the means by which they were distributed:

H1N1 Doses Administered through Public and Private Clinics



H1N1 Vaccine: Doses Administered of 26,335 Doses Received



Community H1N1 Vaccination Events

On December 21st, the H1N1 vaccine was made available to the general public in Nebraska. In Dodge, Saunders, and Washington Counties the vaccine is available through most local health care providers, and through the following open-to-the-public locations:

Dodge County

Three Rivers Immunization Clinic, Fremont
Prairie Fields Family Medicine
Fremont Family Care
North Bend Family Care
Dodge Family Care
Scribner Medical Clinic

Saunders County

Three Rivers Immunization Clinic, Wahoo
Prague Clinic
Lincoln Family Medical Group, Ashland

Washington County

MCH Physicians Blair Clinic
MCH Physicians Cottonwood Clinic, Tekamah
MCH Physicians Fort Calhoun Clinic

PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT Fall 2009

Flu Reporting Guidance for Parents of School Students

If your child is sick with Flu, **please** report it to your school! We would like to be able to keep our school open; therefore, for an ill child's care and for the protection of the other students, the school is monitoring flu cases.

What To Say

If your son or daughter is sick with influenza, it is important that you report the symptoms when you speak with your school's secretary. Please don't tell the secretary only that your child will be absent from school. Instead please say, "My child is sick with symptoms of influenza."

When To Say It

You need not wait for a doctor's diagnosis to know your child has influenza. You should report that your child is sick with influenza symptoms if they have a cough or a sore throat and if, when you take their body temperature using a thermometer, the reading measures 100 degrees or greater. Additional symptoms that often indicate influenza include; listlessness, muscle aches, runny nose, sore throat, chills, and headache. If your child has these symptoms, please don't send them to school. Call your school and say, "My child is sick with influenza symptoms." If seen by your doctor and diagnosed, please say, "My child has been seen by a doctor and diagnosed with Influenza."

Why It Matters

If you report influenza as the reason for your child's absence, your school can share that valuable information with Three Rivers District Health Department. Understand your child's name, grade, classroom is not given out. We've asked school nurses to report school absenteeism numbers due to influenza in order to gain a clearer view of how influenza is emerging. This can help us take action to slow the spread of influenza in our region. We take influenza seriously - and you should, too - because it can lead to serious illnesses, school and business closures, and even deaths. In fact, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that, in the U.S., influenza causes more than 200,000 hospitalizations annually and about 36,000 deaths.

Next Steps

Once you report influenza to your school secretary, consider making an appointment with your child's pediatrician/physician to verify the presence of influenza and obtain a prescription for helpful medications. Please do not send your child back to school until your child's fever is normal for at least 24 hours without using any medications to relieve the fever. If your child is taking medication for influenza, it is still okay to send them to school once the fever is gone for 24 hours, and if they feel well enough. However, your physician knows your child, and may caution you to keep your child out longer.

Keep in mind

Your child's school is working closely with Three Rivers District Health Department on this problem. If the Influenza becomes more severe Three Rivers District Health Department will be giving us further information and guidance. This guidance may change and you may be asked to keep your child out longer, or keep siblings that do not appear ill, out as well. All will be done to protect the welfare of your child.