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December 16, 2009

To: Cape May County Physicians, Clinics, Infection Control, Pharmacies, Municipal Clerks, School Administrators and Nurses, Daycare and Preschools

Re: Expanded H1N1 Vaccination Recommendations

Effective immediately, the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services has expanded H1N1 vaccination beyond target groups to include all persons who are interested in protecting themselves against the H1N1 flu. As such the Cape May County Department of Health will vaccinate all Cape May County residents at the scheduled December 17th H1N1 public clinic. The H1N1 public flu clinic will be held Thursday December 17th at the Richard M. Teitelman School at 687 Route 9 in Erma from 4-7pm.

The Department will be able to provide 2,500 H1N1 flu vaccines at this clinic. Additional H1N1 flu clinics will be scheduled at areas around the County after the new year.

As a reminder, children less than 10 years of age need to receive a booster dose to be fully protected. The booster dose should be given ideally 28 days after the first dose, but it can be given after a minimum of 21 days. Children less than 10 who received their first dose before Thanksgiving (November 26) can receive a booster dose at the December 17th clinic.

Certain persons should not receive the H1N1 flu vaccine. Similar to seasonal flu, persons with a severe allergy to eggs or any of the vaccine components, who have had a severe reaction to a previous flu vaccine, or who have been diagnosed with Guillain-Barre syndrome will need a prescription from their physician to get a flu vaccine.

Free flu safety kits will be available to the first 250 people at the H1N1 flu clinic. A patient consent form can be downloaded at www.cmchealth.net and is attached to this memo. For more information, refer to www.cmchealth.net or 463-6581.

Kind regards,

Kim Cervantes, MA, MPH, CIC
Epidemiologist, Cape May County Department of Health

Cc: Kevin L. Thomas, MA, HO, Public Health Coordinator, Cape May County Department of Health