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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kings County Public Health Expands H1N1 Vaccine Target Populations

Following the successful vaccination of over 4,000 people with the H1N1 vaccine at clinics in Hanford, Corcoran, and Avenal on Saturday, November 14, as well as in Preschools and Daycares throughout the county, Kings County Public Health has enlarged the target population for the vaccine.

The November 14th clinics targeted those populations that are most at risk for severe complications from H1N1 Influenza including:

- Medically fragile school-age children ages 7-18
- All children ages 6 months – 7th birthday
- Parents and caregivers of infants under 6 months
- Pregnant women

Today's action by the Public Health Department will open up the vaccine to a larger population. These newly expanded targets will include:

- All medically fragile individuals through age 64
- All children and young adults ages 6 months – 24 years, regardless of their health status
- Parents and caregivers of infants under 6 months
- Pregnant women
- Health care workers
- Emergency Medical Services workers

At this time, the Public Health Department has not scheduled any further mass clinics, however the vaccine will be available to those in the target population who walk in to the Department or are at the Public Health Department during a regularly scheduled clinic.

H1N1 vaccine will be available to the expanded target population at the Public Health Department:

- In Avenal at 390 Skyline Blvd.
 - December 2nd; 9:00 am – 11:30 am and 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm
 - December 16th; 9:00 am – 11:30 am and 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm
 - December 21st; 9:00 am – 11:30 am and 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm

- In Corcoran at 1002 Dairy Ave.
 - December 7th; 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm
 - December 14th; 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm
 - December 28th; 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm

- In Hanford at the Health Department, 330 Campus Dr., in Building 3
 - Walk-ins during regular business hours
 - Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 11:00 am and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

- In Hanford in Building 5 at the Health Department
 - December 10th from 3:00 pm – 6:30 pm in Building 5

There will continue to be no cost to receive this vaccine.

All people receiving the vaccine will be required to fill out a screening/consent form, which will be available at each clinic, and is also available at any Public Health Clinic, County Library, or online at: <http://www.countyofkings.com/Health/pdf/h1n1-combination-consent-form.pdf> .

Parents who are unable to bring their children to be vaccinated can fill out and sign the consent form, and send it and their child with a designee to have the child vaccinated.

Parents are also encouraged to check with their physicians to see if they have the vaccine available.

Children ages 9 and under will require a second dose of the vaccine about a month after the first one.

Pneumonia can be a complication of influenza. Those persons that are not in the target population are encouraged to ask their health provider about the pneumonia vaccine. The pneumonia vaccine is also available at the Health Department at a cost of \$53.