

# Cook County Department of Public Health

## Cook County Health & Hospitals System

(formerly Cook County Bureau of Health Services)

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Chief Operating Officer

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### **Cook County Department of Public Health prepares to distribute H1N1 vaccine.** *Suburban Cook County residents will have options for where they receive H1N1 vaccine.*

Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) officials are preparing a multifaceted approach to distribute the H1N1 influenza vaccine in suburban Cook County. The first shipment of the H1N1 vaccine is expected to arrive at CCDPH in the coming days and we will begin distributing the vaccine throughout suburban Cook County as soon as it is available. We expect to receive a steady supply of vaccine from the CDC by the end of October or very early November.

The CDC has identified the following priority groups to receive the vaccine:

- all pregnant women
- caretakers and household contacts of children under 6 months of age
- healthcare and emergency medical services employees
- individuals 6 months to 24 years of age
- individuals 25 to 64 years of age with underlying medical conditions, such as asthma or diabetes, that put them at high risk for flu-related complications

“Anyone within the CDC priority group for the H1N1 vaccine is encouraged to contact their medical provider as soon as possible to see if they are on the list to receive the vaccine,” said CCDPH chief operating officer, Stephen A. Martin, Jr., Ph.D., M.P.H. “If residents do not have a medical provider or if their provider did not register for the vaccine, CCDPH will ensure all residents in suburban Cook County who are identified as a priority have the opportunity to receive the H1N1 vaccine.”

### **CCDPH H1N1 vaccination options for suburban Cook County residents:**

- contact medical provider
- local retail pharmacies
- school-based vaccination clinics at participating schools throughout the coming months
- Eight County Health System clinics in suburban Cook County will offer appointments and convenient walk-in hours

Dr. Martin added, “Ensuring widespread distribution of the vaccine throughout suburban Cook County will be a significant effort. The Cook County Health & Hospitals System is providing additional resources to assist in the effort.”

The situation is fluid because the exact arrival time and quantity of vaccine from the CDC is unknown. Residents are encouraged to contact the Cook County Department of Public Health for updated information:

- Visit our website at [www.cookcountypublichealth.org](http://www.cookcountypublichealth.org)
- Email [BeAware@ccdph.net](mailto:BeAware@ccdph.net)
- Call the CCDPH flu Hotline at 708-492-2828

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