



Sedgwick County...
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SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS
COMMUNICATIONS

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Influenza Immunization Week: Get Vaccinated Today!

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) Next week is National Influenza (flu) Immunization Week. The Sedgwick County Health Department has been offering flu shots at the W. Central location (2716 W. Central) since October 1 and still has vaccine available. It is not too late to be vaccinated. Hours of operation for the clinic are: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM and Thursday, 12:00 - 6:00 PM.

The purpose of National Influenza Immunization Week is to highlight the importance of flu vaccination, especially during the winter months.

- Tuesday, December 9th, is designated as Children's Vaccination Day.
- Thursday, December 11th, is designated as Seniors' Vaccination Day.
- Friday, December 12th, will focus on vaccination of health care workers.

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Although all individuals are encouraged to be vaccinated against the seasonal flu, those who fall within the “high risk” group for complication from influenza should be sure to get vaccinated. High risk individuals include:

- Children 6 – 59 months of age*;
- Pregnant women;
- Adults ages 50 and older;
- Persons living in nursing homes, chronic care facilities, or dormitories;
- Persons of any age with certain chronic medical conditions -including heart or lung disease; asthma; diabetes; or kidney or blood disorders;
- Health care workers; and
- Caregivers who have frequent contact with persons at high risk

*It is important to note the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend all children over the age of 6 months receive a flu vaccine. There is a special focus however on children age 6 months to 5 years, as this group has an especially high risk for flu complications.

Besides getting a flu shot, there are other things you can do to reduce the spread of the flu:

- Practice good hand washing habits
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow
- Stay home when sick
- Visit www.sedgwickcounty.org to download free posters, or to send a family member or friend a CDC health-e-card, reminding them to get vaccinated.

At the Health Department, flu shots cost \$30.00 for persons 9 years or older, \$15.00 for persons 6 months to 8 years of age. Pneumonia shots are also available for \$44.00. Vaccine is available for private pay, insured and uninsured persons.

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