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SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS  
COMMUNICATIONS

# NEWS

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Sedgwick County Health Department Offering Flu Shots**

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) The leaves are getting ready to change, which means flu season is just around the corner! Starting Wednesday, October 1 the Sedgwick County Health Department will be offering flu shots through its Mobile Clinic. Starting Monday, October 6, flu shots will be available at the West Central location, 2716 W. Central, during hours of operation: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM and Thursday, 12:00 - 6:00 PM. For a complete schedule of the Mobile Clinics, call 660-7366.

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 get vaccinated early in the season, before November. 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 -such as heart or lung disease, asthma, diabetes, kidney disorders, blood disorders, weakened immune systems or conditions that can weaken the respiratory system;

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- Health care workers; and
- Household contacts 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 everyone can do to reduce the spread of the flu and other diseases:

- Practice good hand washing habits
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow
- Stay home when sick
- Visit [www.sedgwickcounty.org](http://www.sedgwickcounty.org) to download free hand washing and cover your cough posters.

The price for flu shots offered through the Health Department are \$30.00 for persons 9 years of age and older, \$15.00 for persons 6 months to 8 years of age. Pneumonia shots will also be available for \$44.00. The Health Department has ordered more than 8,000 doses of the flu vaccine and has provided several ways to make the flu shot clinics convenient and accessible. In addition, flu vaccine is available for uninsured children who meet eligibility requirements.

“Getting a flu shot is the responsible thing to do,” said Sedgwick County Commission Chairman Tom Winters. “It is a low-cost way to greatly reduce one’s chances of acquiring the seasonal flu and thus spreading it throughout the community.”

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