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SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS
COMMUNICATIONS

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEWS CONFERENCE – TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15: H1N1 AND SEASONAL FLU

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) – The Sedgwick County Health Department will host a news conference on Tuesday, September 15 at 1:30 p.m. in the Board of County Commissioners meeting room (3rd floor of Sedgwick County Courthouse, 525 N Main). The topic of this conference will be “Things to Know about the Flu.” Both seasonal and H1N1 will be addressed.

Claudia Blackburn, Director of the Sedgwick County Health Department, will give a presentation on the differences between H1N1 and seasonal flu. As a kickoff to the seasonal flu vaccination campaign, some of the Sedgwick County Commissioners will receive their *seasonal* flu shots during this conference. Seasonal flu shots will be available starting Monday, September 21 at the 2716 W Central Health Department location 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.

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.

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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 seasonal influenza should get vaccinated early in the season, before November. High risk individuals include:

- All children over the age of 6 months, but especially those age 6 months to 5 years, as this group has a very high risk for seasonal flu complications;
- 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;
- Health care workers; and
- Household contacts and caregivers who have frequent contact with persons at high risk.

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