



Sedgwick County...
working for you

NEWS

PUBLIC INFORMATION

316-660-9370 316-383-7946 WWW.SEDGWICKCOUNTY.ORG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 13, 2017

CONTACT

Kate Flavin
316-660-9370

Free flu shots offered to Sedgwick County uninsured adults

(Sedgwick County, Kan.) – Free flu vaccines are available for uninsured Sedgwick County residents over the age of 19 while the vaccination is in stock. The vaccine is available at Sedgwick County's Division of Health main clinic, 2716 W. Central in Wichita. Clinic hours:

- Monday – Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Thursday, noon to 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Flu vaccinations are available to uninsured children up to age 18 and children with state-sponsored insurance plans such as Medicaid, Amerigroup, United Healthcare, or Sunflower. A sliding fee scale is available for children who qualify.

There will be a **flu shot clinic** at the main clinic from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, January 6, 2018.**

Individuals who do not qualify for a flu vaccination at the Division of Health may visit their primary care physician or neighborhood pharmacy to receive one. Visit www.flu.gov for information about resources in your area.

Flu vaccinations are recommended for anyone six months or older, unless otherwise directed by a physician. It is important to get a flu vaccination every year, as flu strains are usually different from year to year. Sedgwick County wants to remind residents that flu vaccinations protect the person receiving it as well as others who are not able to receive this type of immunization.

There is no live virus in flu shots and the vaccine cannot cause the flu. The Division of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend the flu vaccine because it can keep you from getting the flu, make the flu less severe if you do get it, and keep you from spreading flu to your family and others.

-more-

Flu is caused by influenza viruses and is spread mainly by coughing, sneezing, and close contact. Anyone can get the flu. Flu strikes suddenly and can last several days; symptoms vary by age, but can include: fever/ chills, sore throat, muscle aches, fatigue, cough, headache, runny or stuffy nose.

You can prevent the spread of flu and safeguard yourself and your family with these simple steps:

1. Get a flu shot.
2. Wash your hands. Use hand sanitizer if soap and running water are not available.
3. Cough and sneeze into your elbow.
4. Stay home if you become ill.

“People who do develop flu symptoms, should contact their medical provider right away,” said the Division of Health Director Adrienne Byrne. “Prescription antiviral medications are available to shorten the duration of flu symptoms and reduce the risk of complications.”

If you have questions about the flu vaccine, please contact the Sedgwick County Immunizations Program at 316-660-7362 or immunizations@sedgwick.gov.

-end-