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News Release

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For Immediate Release

Flu Vaccine Update

The Brazos County Health Department is preparing for Seasonal and Novel H1N1 vaccine distribution according to guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS).

The Seasonal Flu vaccine will be available at the Brazos County Health Department during regular immunization clinic hours beginning Tuesday, September 8, 2009 for \$20. Everyone that is 6 months of age and older are encouraged to receive the Seasonal Flu vaccine.

The Novel H1N1 Flu vaccine is expected to be available in mid-October. DSHS will manage all distribution of this vaccine to both health departments and private providers. Texas should receive 3-12 million doses initially, with 750,000 to 3 million more doses delivered weekly thereafter.

Initial priority groups targeted for the Novel H1N1 Flu Vaccine include:

- Pregnant women
- Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age
- Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel
- All people 6 months through 24 years of age
- Persons 25-64 years of age who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza

Once the above groups have been given the opportunity to receive the vaccine, individuals 25 years of age and older will be offered the vaccine. However, it is expected that there will be enough vaccine for everyone to be vaccinated.

Individuals receiving the Novel H1N1 vaccine are expected to need two doses with a minimum of 21-28 days between each vaccine.

For more information visit www.brazoshealth.org or www.texasflu.org.

*(News **media**: for more information contact Sara Mendez, PIO, at (979) 361-4440.)*