

PORTAGE COUNTY LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

Portage County Health Department
Ravenna City Health Department
Kent City Health Department

PCHD 330-296-9919
RCHD 330-296-4478
KCHD 330-678-8109

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Local milestones recognized during National Influenza Vaccination Week

Over 23,000 doses administered and distributed by Portage County Health Departments

To date, the Portage County Health Departments have administered 16,000 doses of H1N1 flu vaccine in school-based and community-based clinics since the end of October. Over 10,000 doses have been administered in Portage County schools. Since November, there have been ten (10) health department-operated clinics held in Ravenna, Kent, Streetsboro, and Hiram that have immunized approximately 6,000 people. The Portage County Health Departments have distributed 7,100 doses to over 30 facilities, such as nursing homes, fire departments, physician's offices, Robinson Memorial Hospital, Hiram College, Kent State University, and Hattie Larlham.

Free Vaccine Available through Health Departments

Each Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Noon, both the Portage County Health Department and Ravenna City Health Department offer the H1N1 flu vaccine free of charge to everyone. A complete calendar of where you can get the vaccine for free is available through the Portage County H1N1 website co.portage.oh.us/h1n1.htm. Four more free H1N1 Flu Vaccine clinics are scheduled to take place in Aurora, Randolph, Kent, and the Southeast School District. Vaccine is available at cost to patients through physician's offices and pharmacies. H1N1 flu vaccine at a pharmacy is only available to people age 14 years and older.

School-based vaccinations finish this week

Portage County Health Departments will finish administering second doses to local school children age 9 years and younger this week in the cities of Aurora, Ravenna and Kent.

Vaccination is the best protection against flu

Some people are at a higher risk of severe complications from H1N1 flu. They include pregnant women, healthy young adults and children as well as people with chronic health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, and heart disease. The health departments wish to remind all residents that it's not too late to get the H1N1 flu vaccine and the seasonal flu vaccine. Though flu activity, caused by either 2009 H1N1 or seasonal flu viruses, may rise and fall, it is expected to continue for several more months.



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