



Contact:
Ken Johnson
Media Relations Coordinator
O: 405-425-4315
Ken_Johnson@occhd.org

NEWS RELEASE

September 26, 2017

Oklahoma City-County Health Department offers flu vaccine beginning October 2nd *Epidemiologists recommend vaccines for everyone over six months of age*

Oklahoma City, Okla. – [Oklahoma City-County Health Department](#) (OCCHD) will launch their seasonal flu-vaccine clinics on Monday, October 2nd. The cost for the flu shot is \$25. Payment can be made in the form of cash, check or credit card. The vaccine is available at no cost for those who qualify for Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, while supplies last.

OCCHD Epidemiologists advise residents that getting vaccinated against the flu is the best form of prevention, along with covering sneezes and practicing good hand hygiene. The flu vaccine can keep you from getting the flu, make the illness less severe if you do get it, and keep you from spreading the virus to family and friends.

The flu vaccine is recommended for everyone over six months of age and are approved for use in pregnant women and people with chronic health conditions. There are flu shots specifically for use in people as young as 6 months of age and older. Children under nine who have not received two flu immunizations before July 1, 2017 will need a second dose at least four weeks after receiving the first dose.

“Flu vaccination helps prevent missing work or school, expensive doctor or urgent care visits and lengthy hospitalizations,” said OCCHD Clinical Liaison Kerri Stewart.

Flu is a contagious disease that spreads around the United States every year, usually between October and May. It is spread mainly by coughing, sneezing, and close contact. Symptoms include: fever, chills, sore throat, muscle aches, fatigue, cough, headache and runny or stuffy nose.

Persons at high risk of serious complications from flu are especially advised to get the flu vaccine, including children younger than 5, senior citizens, and those with asthma, diabetes or other chronic conditions.

The flu vaccines will be offered as supplies last to anyone over the age of six months on a walk-in basis Mondays through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. – noon at the following Oklahoma City – County Health Department locations:

- OCCHD Gary Cox Partner Building – 2700 N.E. 63rd Street, OKC – 419-4200
- South Regional Health Campus – 2149 S.W. 59th Street, OKC – 419-4119
- OCCHD West Clinic – 4330 N.W. 10th Street, OKC – 419-4150

OCCHD accepts Blue Cross Blue Shield, Health Choice, Medicare, SoonerCare and Medicaid for immunizations. Make sure to bring your insurance card and a photo ID when coming to get the vaccine.

About Oklahoma City-County Health Department

Established in 1954, Oklahoma City-County Health Department (OCCHD) is committed to protecting health, promoting wellness and preventing disease to ensure a healthy future for the Oklahoma County-area community. OCCHD was one of the first public health departments in the nation to receive accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board. For more information, please visit www.occhd.org.

###