



SAN DIEGO COUNTY FLU BULLETIN

Number 1 – December 10, 2001

This Bulletin is to provide the media with updated news on flu outbreaks, the availability of flu vaccine, and issues of interest. Important points establishing this story are:

1. Flu vaccine is available: It's not too late to get a flu shot!

Now is the time to receive an influenza vaccination. Although a portion of this year's Influenza vaccine shipment was delayed, currently there **are** sufficient amounts of flu vaccine available in the community. Community members should first check with their health care provider. If vaccine is not available they may check the website: www.sdchip.org or they may call the **toll free** info line 1-877-FLU-0202 to find a listing of vaccine clinics in their area.

2. People who are at risk for severe complications if they contract the flu should be vaccinated:

- People who are age 50 or older;
- People (including children) with lung, heart, or kidney disease, diabetes, immunosuppression, or other chronic illness;
- Health care providers and others who care for ill persons;
- Women in the second or third trimester of pregnancy;
- Residents of nursing homes or other chronic-care facilities;
- Household contacts of high-risk individuals.

3. A recent letter posted on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention flu website, (<http://www.cdc.gov/nip/flu>) suggests that those who previously deferred vaccination, such as work site clinics and young, healthy individuals can now be vaccinated.

4. Regional Flu Activity: No cases of influenza reported thus far.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Website: www.sdchip.org – listing of vaccine clinics, and a media section for this bulletin
Toll-Free Flu Info Line: 877-FLU-0202 – listing of vaccine clinics

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The Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP) is a collaboration of San Diego health care systems, hospitals, community clinics, insurers, physicians, universities and community benefit organizations that are committed to improved health for San Diego through collaboration and assessment.