



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **SAN DIEGO COUNTY LIFTS REMAINING FLU SHOT RESTRICTIONS**

*Public Health Officer Follows Recent State Department of Health Services Order*

Following the California Department of Health Services Jan. 7 decision to rescind its restrictions on flu shot eligibility requirements, Nancy Bowen, M.D., San Diego County Public Health Officer, has lifted the same restrictions for San Diego County.

“All County residents who wish to get a flu shot are now eligible to get one,” said Dr. Bowen. “There’s still time. The flu season often extends into early spring. We’re hearing that the flu season is getting a brisk start in New York City.”

Those in priority risk groups who haven’t received a shot yet are still urged to get one. They include: adults age 50 or older, emergency services workers, all children aged six to 23 months, individuals aged two to 64 years with underlying chronic medical conditions, women who will be pregnant during influenza season, residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities, children aged six months to 18 years on chronic aspirin therapy, out-of-home caregivers and household contacts of children younger than six months of age, and healthcare workers providing direct patient care and those who have regular contact with those in high-risk priority groups.

The County Health and Human Services Agency has approximately 3,728 doses of adult, State-purchased vaccine remaining. The County also has about 4,191 doses left of flu vaccine for uninsured children. Flu vaccine is also available from private providers. Private providers may purchase vaccine by contacting the County’s Immunization Program at (619) 692-8661.

To find a County Public Health Center, please call the County Flu Hotline at 1-866-358-2966. For other clinics, please visit the CHIP Web site at [www.sdchip.org](http://www.sdchip.org), or call the CHIP/AIS Flu Hotline at 1-877-FLU-0202.

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