Nashoba Associated Boards of Health

Environmental Health Service

30 Central Avenue, Ayer, Ma. 01432

MEMO

DATE: October 25, 2010

TO: Citizens of the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health District

FROM: Jim Garreffi, Director

RE: SCHOOL-LOCATED FLU CLINICS

In an effort to provide additional access to the Seasonal Flu vaccine this office, in conjunction with your Local Board of Health, is providing flu clinics at a number of schools throughout the district.

Though the clinic is open to all; we are encouraging the vaccination of school children in an effort to reduce potential illness and absenteeism during the school year.

We ask that children (those under the age of 18) be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Attached please find the paperwork for the clinic; vaccine information sheet and immunization form. Forms will also be available at each clinic site, please bring your insurance card.

The cost of the vaccination is free.

Flu Clinic Schedule

Nov 1st	Groton-Dunstable High School, 703 Chicopee Row, Groton	3-6PM
Nov 3rd	Ashby Elementary School, 911 Main St., Ashby	3:30-6PM
Nov 4th	Shirley Middle School, 1 Hospital Rd., Shirley	3-6PM
Nov 8th	Hawthorne Middle School, 64 Brookline Rd., Townsend	3-6PM
Nov 9th	Nashoba High School, 12 Green Rd., Bolton	3-6PM
Nov 10th	Nissitissit Middle School, 33 Chace Ave., Pepperell	3-6PM

(978) 772-3335 (800) 427-9762 FAX (978) 772-4947

2010 - 2011 Insurance Information Form

The completion of this form is necessary for every vaccine recipient. If no insurance information is available, please fill out as much as possible using existing information.

Information about the person to receive vaccine (please print): *Required Fields

Name: (Last, First, MI)*	Date of birth: * ___ ___ ___ Month Day Year	Age*	Sex: (Circle)* Male Female
Street Address:*			
City:*	State: *	Zip:*	Phone:* ( )

Insurance Information: *Include the whole member ID number and any letters that are part of that number*

Name of Insurance Company:*	Member ID Number:*	Group ID Number: (if available)

If person getting vaccinated is not the subscriber, please complete the following:

Subscriber's Name: (Last, First, MI)*	Subscriber's Date of Birth: * ___ ___ ___ Month Day Year	Sex: (Circle)* Male Female
Subscriber's Street Address:* (If different from address above)		
City:*	State:*	Zip: *	Phone:* ( )
Patient Relationship to Subscriber: (Circle)* Spouse Child Other		

I give permission for my insurance company to be billed.

X _____ Date: _____
(Signature of patient, parent or legal guardian)

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For Clinic/Office Use Only:

Date vax given:	Seasonal Flu Vax Type	Vax Manufacturer	Vax Exp. Date & Lot No.	Dose No.	Preserv. Free	Injection Site & Route: (Circle)*	Date on VIS	Date VIS Given
	TIV LAIV			1 2 Amount:	Yes No	Intranasal IM R Arm L Arm R Leg L Leg		

Clinic Site Name: _____ MDPH Provider PIN#: _____

Clinic Address: _____

Signature of Vaccine Administrator: _____ Date: _____

Use the space below to record any additional information: (optional)

_____

INACTIVATED INFLUENZA VACCINE

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW 2010-11

Many Vaccine Information Statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See http://www.immunize.org/vis
Hojas de Informacián Sobre Vacunas están disponibles en Español y en muchos otros idiomas. Visite http://www.immunize.org/vis

1 Why get vaccinated?

Influenza ("flu") is a contagious disease.

It is caused by the influenza virus, which can be spread by coughing, sneezing, or nasal secretions.

Anyone can get influenza, but rates of infection are highest among children. For most people, symptoms last only a few days. They include:

- fever
- sore throat
- chills
- fatigue
- cough
- headache
- muscle aches

Other illnesses can have the same symptoms and are often mistaken for influenza.

Infants, the elderly, pregnant women, and people with certain health conditions – such as heart, lung or kidney disease or a weakened immune system – can get much sicker. Flu can cause high fever and pneumonia, and make existing medical conditions worse. It can cause diarrhea and seizures in children. Each year thousands of people die from seasonal influenza and even more require hospitalization.

By getting vaccinated you can protect yourself from influenza and may also avoid spreading influenza to others.

2 Inactivated influenza vaccine

There are two types of influenza vaccine:

1. **Inactivated** (killed) vaccine, or the "flu shot" is given by injection into the muscle.

2. **Live, attenuated** (weakened) influenza vaccine is sprayed into the nostrils. *This vaccine is described in a separate Vaccine Information Statement.*

A "high-dose" inactivated influenza vaccine is available for people 65 years of age and older. Ask your healthcare provider for more information.

Influenza viruses are always changing, so annual vaccination is recommended. Each year scientists try to match the viruses in the vaccine to those most likely to cause flu that year.

The 2010-2011 vaccine provides protection against A/H1N1 (pandemic) influenza and two other influenza viruses – influenza A/H3N2 and influenza B. It will not prevent illness caused by other viruses.

It takes up to 2 weeks for protection to develop after the shot. Protection lasts about a year.

Some inactivated influenza vaccine contains a preservative called thimerosal. Thimerosal-free influenza vaccine is available. Ask your healthcare provider for more information.

3 Who should get inactivated influenza vaccine and when?

WHO

All people **6 months of age and older** should get flu vaccine.

Vaccination is especially important for people at higher risk of severe influenza and their close contacts, including healthcare personnel and close contacts of children younger than 6 months.

People who got the 2009 H1N1 (pandemic) influenza vaccine, or had pandemic flu in 2009, should still get the 2010-2011 seasonal influenza vaccine.

WHEN

Getting the vaccine as soon as it is available will provide protection if the flu season comes early. You can get the vaccine as long as illness is occurring in your community.

Influenza can occur at any time, but most influenza occurs from November through May. In recent seasons, most infections have occurred in January and February. Getting vaccinated in December, or even later, will still be beneficial in most years.

Adults and older children need one dose of influenza vaccine each year. But some children younger than 9 years of age need two doses to be protected. Ask your healthcare provider.

Influenza vaccine may be given at the same time as other vaccines, including pneumococcal vaccine.

4 Some people should not get inactivated influenza vaccine or should wait

- Tell your healthcare provider if you have any **severe** (life-threatening) allergies. Allergic reactions to influenza vaccine are rare.

- Influenza vaccine virus is grown in eggs. People with a **severe egg allergy** should not get influenza vaccine.
- A severe allergy to any vaccine component is also a reason not to get the vaccine.
- If you ever had a severe reaction after a dose of influenza vaccine, tell your healthcare provider.

- Tell your healthcare provider if you ever had Guillain-Barré Syndrome (a severe paralytic illness, also called GBS). Your provider will help you decide whether the vaccine is recommended for you.
- People who are moderately or severely ill should usually wait until they recover before getting flu vaccine. If you are ill, talk to your healthcare provider about whether to reschedule the vaccination. People with a mild illness can usually get the vaccine.

5 What are the risks from inactivated influenza vaccine?

A vaccine, like any medicine, could possibly cause serious problems, such as severe allergic reactions. The risk of a vaccine causing serious harm, or death, is extremely small.

Serious problems from inactivated influenza vaccine are very rare. The viruses in inactivated influenza vaccine have been killed, so you cannot get influenza from the vaccine.

Mild problems:
- soreness, redness, or swelling where the shot was given
- hoarseness; sore, red or itchy eyes; cough
- fever • aches

If these problems occur, they usually begin soon after the shot and last 1-2 days.

Severe problems:
- Life-threatening allergic reactions from vaccines are very rare. If they do occur, it is usually within a few minutes to a few hours after the shot.
- In 1976, a type of inactivated influenza (swine flu) vaccine was associated with Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS). Since then, flu vaccines have not been clearly linked to GBS. However, if there is a risk of GBS from current flu vaccines, it would be no more than 1 or 2 cases per million people vaccinated. This is much lower than the risk of severe influenza, which can be prevented by vaccination.

One brand of inactivated flu vaccine, called Afluria, **should not be given** to children 8 years of age or younger, except in special circumstances. A related vaccine was associated with fevers and fever-related seizures in young children in Australia. Ask your healthcare provider for more information.

The safety of vaccines is always being monitored. For more information, visit:
http://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/Vaccine_Monitoring/Index.html
and
http://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/Activities/Activities_Index.html

6 What if there is a severe reaction?

What should I look for?
Any unusual condition, such as a high fever or behavior changes. Signs of a severe allergic reaction can include difficulty breathing, hoarseness or wheezing, hives, paleness, weakness, a fast heart beat or dizziness.

What should I do?
- **Call** a doctor, or get the person to a doctor right away.
- **Tell** the doctor what happened, the date and time it happened, and when the vaccination was given.
- **Ask** your healthcare provider to report the reaction by filing a Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) form. Or you can file this report through the VAERS website at **http://www.vaers.hhs.gov**, or by calling **1-800-822-7967**.

VAERS does not provide medical advice.

7 The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) was created in 1986.

People who believe they may have been injured by a vaccine can learn about the program and about filing a claim by calling **1-800-338-2382**, or visiting the VICP website at **http://www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation**.

8 How can I learn more?

- Ask your healthcare provider. They can give you the vaccine package insert or suggest other sources of information.
- Call your local or state health department.
- Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
  - Call **1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO)** or
  - Visit CDC's website at **http://www.cdc.gov/flu**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION