



## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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### **Stanislaus County Health Services Agency Conducts Annual Low-cost Community Flu Vaccination Clinics**

**Stanislaus County** – The Stanislaus County Health Services Agency will begin its low-cost community flu vaccination clinics starting October 10<sup>th</sup> in Modesto, at the Healthy Aging Summit. The Agency will conduct a total of 30 clinics in 12 communities throughout Stanislaus County from October to December. The clinics will offer flu vaccinations to people who are at high risk for serious health complications from the flu, including persons 50 years and older, children 6 months through 18 years, women who are pregnant during the flu season and other individuals with high-risk heart and lung conditions, diabetes or asthma, as well as people who care for, live with or have extended amounts of contacts with the individuals mentioned.

The vaccinations will be offered at a low cost of \$10 per child (6 months – 18 years) and \$20 per adult. Payment may be made in cash or check, and can be covered by Medicare. Those with HMO health plans, such as Pacific Care Secure Horizons, Health Net Seniority Plus, and Kaiser Senior Advantage should receive vaccinations from their health care provider.

“As the flu season is approaching, it is important to take action to protect yourself and your loved ones against the flu. The best way is to get vaccinated,” stated Dr. John Walker, Stanislaus County Public Health Officer. “Everyone 50 and over should get a flu shot this fall,” Walker said.

In addition to adults over 50, health officials are reminding people that pregnant women, anyone with a chronic heart or lung condition, and children 6 months to 5 years are at higher risk of serious complications from the flu and should be vaccinated against the flu. Also, anyone working in a health care setting is more likely to be exposed to the flu virus, and should take precautions to protect themselves, their families, and their patients by getting an annual flu vaccination.

Flu shots are available from primary care physicians’ offices, as well as many local pharmacies.

This season’s flu vaccine will offer protection against three strains: A/Brisban/59/2007 (H1N1)-like virus, A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2)-like virus, and B/Florida/4/2006-like virus.

If the public would like more information, they should contact the Stanislaus County Health Services Agency’s Public Health Services at 558-8872, or visit the HSA website at [www.hsahealth.org](http://www.hsahealth.org).

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