



What's the Buzz?

The Newsletter of the Bucks County Immunization Coalition

www.bucksimmunize.org

Fall 2009

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

Seasonal Influenza News



The Bucks County Health Department and Emergency Management Agency held its fourth annual Pandemic Flu drill on October 17, 2009, to immunize citizens from this year's winter

season flu and also to help prepare county officials and citizens for a Pandemic Flu mass-vaccination scenario.

Over the course of four hours, more than 6,320 vaccines were administered at four walk-in locations: Penridge South Middle School, Unami Middle School, Log



College Middle School, and Rohm & Haas/Dow Chemical in Croydon. In comparison, the 2008 drill vaccinated over 4,500 citizens. For more tips on preparedness, please visit the website: www.BucksCounty.org/ReadyBucks.

The Bucks County Health Department is the place to go for information if you need information on either the seasonal flu or H1N1

- Call 877-477-4492 to hear the current message hotline for the most up-to-date flu information. You may leave a message to receive a return call.
- Visit www.BucksCounty.org and click on the flu widget in the middle of the home page for updated and detailed information.

H1N1 Symptoms Are Very Similar To Seasonal Flu However, the Vaccinations are different.

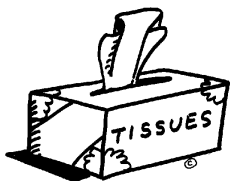
One difference is how the vaccines will be administered. Once H1N1 vaccine becomes available for everyone they will be obtainable from your doctor.

In the interim there are priority groups for early distribution, which include healthcare workers, pregnant women, caregivers to those less than 6 months of age, all people between 6 months ~ 24 years of age, and those 24-64 years of age with chronic medical conditions. These individuals will receive the first vaccines so check medical eligibility.

Get both vaccines for full protection!

Healthy Habits Help You Stay Well

- Cover your sneeze or cough with the bend of your elbow if you don't have a tissue.
- Wash hands frequently to help prevent germs from spreading.
- If soap & water aren't available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Get plenty of rest.
- Use social distancing.
- Exercise regularly.
- Drink plenty of fluids.
- Eat nutritious foods.
- Manage your stress level.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- If you are sick, stay home until 24 hours after your fever breaks.



PHILLIES IMMUNIZATION EVENT

Celebration of National Immunization Awareness Month August 2009



For the second year in a row during a home Phillies MBL game, the Immunization Coalitions of Southeastern Pennsylvania (Bucks County, Chester County, Montgomery County, Lehigh County, Delaware County and Philadelphia) joined together as a council for an Adult Immunization Awareness Night.

On 8/18/09 the Phillies played a winning game and beat the Arizona Diamondbacks to a sold out crowd. Over **1000** of the attending ticketholders were family members and friends of the Coalitions.

Highlights of the event included Dr. Paul Offit's toss of the First Pitch of the game. Additionally, the Bucks County Immunization Coalition Mascot "Bee Diddy" interacted with the Philly Fanatic and the Bee Keeper. There was also a three-minute video made by PA DOH



State focusing on Adult immunizations that featured two testimonials, namely:

- 1) A family adopting a child from India, where all family members required specific vaccinations to travel to this country to meet their new addition.
- 2) A patient with a complex medical history required specific vaccines due to a weakened immunity. This story emphasized the importance of vaccines needed by family members and friends in order to better protect a vulnerable person.

"Bee" A Member!

The Bucks County Immunization Coalition welcomes new members with a commitment to the health and welfare of Pennsylvania residents in Bucks County.

Coalition membership provides an opportunity to meet and work together with other community members who share a passion and desire to improve the health and well being of Bucks County.

Meetings take place at 1:30 pm on the third Wednesday of every month at the Bucks County Department of Health, Neshaminy Manor Center in Doylestown. Please RSVP to **Ann Gordon** at **215-345-3477** if you plan to attend.



WANTED!

The following are **HIGH RISK** for **PNEUMOCOCCAL DISEASE and INFLUENZA**:

SEASONAL INFLUENZA	PNEUMOCOCCAL
50 years and older	65 years and older.
Women who are pregnant and children 6 months to 18 years	19-64 years of age who smoke cigarettes OR have asthma.
with special health problems such as heart or lung disease, diabetes, kidney failure, weakened immune system, etc.	with special health problems such as heart or lung disease, diabetes, kidney failure, etc.

Prevent Pneumococcal disease and Influenza by receiving your vaccines. Get YOUR Reward TODAY!

Bucks County Department of Health
Levittown office 215-949-5805 • Doylestown office 215-345-3344
Quakertown office 215-529-7090



Bucks County Immunization Coalition