

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

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No Recalled Vaccine Shipped to Oneida County Health *Manufacturer Says Some Lots of H1N1 Lost Potency*

None of the H1N1 vaccine involved in a voluntary manufacturer's recall due to a loss of potency had been shipped to the Oneida County Health Department, County Executive Anthony J. Picente, Jr. and health department officials confirmed today.

"Our Health Department staff checked the lot numbers of all inventory of the H1N1 vaccine on hand, as well as those doses that have already been administered, and confirmed that none of the recalled vaccine was ever in our possession," Oneida County Executive Anthony J. Picente, Jr. said.

The vaccine that is the subject of a voluntary recall is in the form of pre-filled syringes of pediatric doses.

"The manufacturer performs routine stability testing, or measuring of the vaccines strength, because the potency of the vaccine can sometimes diminish over time," Acting Director of Health, Daniel W. Gilmore said. Gilmore continued, *"A particular lot manufactured by Sanofi Pasteur was found to have a slightly lower level of the active ingredient, or antigen than the specified range. Subsequently, additional testing found three other lots, totaling about 800-thousand doses, that had diminished potency so the manufacturer has voluntarily recalled those vaccines."*

Gilmore stressed that the product had passed all testing for purity and safety and posed no health issues whatsoever for anyone who had taken the vaccine. Nor would it be necessary to repeat the vaccination since the potency of the recalled product was expected to be effective in stimulating a protective response.

According to health department officials, if any of the recalled vaccine was shipped to other area providers they will be notified and instructed by the manufacturer on the proper procedure for returning unused vaccine.

"Fortunately, this situation will not impact our supply of vaccine nor in any way impede our school vaccination program or public clinics," Gilmore said.

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