

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Adirondack Bank Building, 5th Floor, 185 Genesee St., Utica, NY 13501

ANTHONY J. PICENTE, JR.
ONEIDA COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DANIEL W. GILMORE, PH.D.
DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
SUPERVISOR-IN-CHARGE

ADMINISTRATION

Phone: (315) 798-6400 ☎ Fax: (315) 266-6138

NEWS RELEASE

December 15, 2009

For Immediate Release

Contact: Ken Fanelli, PIO
798-5099

‘Unrestricted’ Swine flu Clinics at MVCC *‘H1N1 Vaccine Available to All Age Groups’*

Oneida County Executive Anthony J. Picente, Jr. announced today that two more H1N1 clinics have been scheduled and will be held at the Mohawk Valley Community College Alumni Center on the Utica campus. The clinics will offer the H1N1 vaccine to all persons 6-months of age and older, including healthy persons.

“Since the State lifted all eligibility restrictions for the vaccine, and while we have ample doses on hand, we want to offer its protection to as many Oneida County residents as possible,” Picente said. *“The Alumni Center on the MVCC campus offers an ideal venue to accommodate a large number of people comfortably and provides convenient parking.”*

A clinic will be held on **Saturday, December 19th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.** A second clinic will be held two weeks later on **Saturday, January 9th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.** As with all immunization clinics being conducted by the Oneida County Health Department, the vaccine will be given by appointment. Persons will be scheduled during half-hour intervals to minimize lines and waiting. To schedule an appointment for any of the clinics, persons can call the Oneida County Health Department at **798-5747.**

The health department has two other clinics scheduled in December. There are a few available openings at an ‘adult’ clinic for persons 19-years and older being held on Wednesday, December 16th from 4-6 PM at the Health Department building at 406 Elizabeth Street in Utica. A second adult clinic on December 22nd from 4-6 PM at the Elizabeth Street location still has available appointment times.

Picente urged residents to take advantage of the free clinics and said that while the number of reported new cases of H1N1 influenza in Oneida County has declined in recent weeks, the threat of infection still remains. *“Health officials fear a possible resurgence of Swine flu cases after the holidays, when people are traveling and getting together in large groups,”* Picente warned. Meanwhile, the health department is in its fourth week of the County’s school mass immunization program providing vaccinations for more than 30-thousand students in the County’s 19 school districts.

More information on H1N1 influenza and a complete schedule of immunization clinics can be found on the County’s web site at ocgov.net or by calling the *Flu Information ‘Hotline’* at 798-3600.

###