



NEWS RELEASE

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Influenza vaccine now available to all in Alabama

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Any Alabamian who wishes to reduce the risk of contracting influenza is now eligible to receive influenza vaccine. Previously, only high-risk persons in specific priority groups were to be vaccinated.

Dr. Donald Williamson, state health officer, said, "This offering will help decrease the transmission of influenza in the state and should help clinics utilize the remaining vaccine to the greatest extent possible."

Physicians and pharmacists in Alabama are being sent 46,000 doses of influenza vaccine this week. Less than 5,000 doses of vaccine remain in county health departments.

Seven cases of influenza have been confirmed in Alabama this season. The incidence of influenza usually peaks in January and February in the state.

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