



NEWS RELEASE

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

RSA Tower 201 Monroe Street, Suite 914 Montgomery, AL 36104

Phone 334-206-5300 Fax 334-206-5534

www.adph.org

Alabama Department of Public Health to provide influenza immunizations in Dale and Houston counties

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Peggy Searcy
(334) 886-2390

The Alabama Department of Public Health has received its first 2,000 doses of influenza vaccine. The vaccine will be delivered to the Dale and Houston county health departments since those counties already have been experiencing influenza disease activity. Immunizations will be offered to adults and children ages 4 and older on a first come, first served basis.

Immunization clinics are scheduled as follows:

DOTHAN – Westgate Park Recreation Center, 501 Recreation Road

Wednesday, Oct. 4, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

OZARK – Perry Recreation Center, 1 Community Drive

Thursday, Oct. 5, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Persons seeking influenza immunizations are asked to bring their Medicare or Medicaid cards. Teachers and their dependents should bring their PEEHIP insurance cards and state employees and their dependents should bring their SEIB insurance cards.

Fourteen cases of early-season influenza A/H1N1 have been confirmed in Dale County. In addition, three laboratory-confirmed positive influenza B/Shanghai cases from Houston County are under further investigation. In August, one case of influenza B/Hong Kong was confirmed in Mobile County. Specimens were sent to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's laboratories for further analysis.

Additional doses of influenza vaccine will be received by the Alabama Department of Public Health later in the season. Outbreaks of influenza occasionally occur outside the typical influenza season that extends from November to March in Alabama. The public also is reminded to follow basic infection control measures. These include covering the mouth when coughing and frequent hand washing.

For more information call the Dale County Health Department at (334) 774-5146 or the Houston County Health Department at (334) 678-2800. Information will also be available at www.adph.org/immunization.

9/28/06

