



## NEWS RELEASE

### ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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## Alabama Department of Public Health expects influenza vaccine soon

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Alabama Department of Public Health joins the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in observing the week after Thanksgiving, Nov. 27-Dec. 3, as National Influenza Vaccination Week.

This event is designed to raise awareness of the importance of continuing influenza vaccination and to foster greater use of flu vaccine through the months of November, December and beyond.

The health department expects to receive additional doses of influenza vaccine in the coming weeks, and all Alabamians are encouraged to be immunized. County health departments are expected to have more than 100,000 doses of influenza vaccine available statewide by Nov. 27. These doses represent the final shipments on orders placed by the department.

Flu clinics in county health departments will be held the weeks of Nov. 27-Dec.1 and Dec. 4-8. Usually influenza disease in Alabama peaks in the months of January and February, so being vaccinated in December is not too late for protection from influenza.

Please contact your local county health department for flu clinic dates and times or go to [www.adph.org](http://www.adph.org) for statewide clinic dates.

In the past two to three weeks the Alabama Department of Public Health has been seeing sustained regional influenza activity within two areas of the state, the Mobile-Baldwin county area and southeast Alabama.

The CDC recommends vaccinations for anyone who wants to decrease the risk of influenza. While anyone can get influenza those with chronic illnesses and pregnant women are at highest risk for complications. In addition, those in close contact with these high-risk persons are also at increased risk and should get vaccinated.

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