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Public Information Release

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Non-Safety-Related Recall of H1N1 Vaccine

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Sanofi Pasteur, a maker of the 2009 H1N1 vaccine, announced a non-safety-related recall of some pediatric doses of vaccine today. The Miami County Health District used some of this vaccine in several of its clinics in Piqua from November 21 to December 15. However, since this is a non-safety-related recall, parents of children who received this vaccine do not need to worry.

“This is not a recall because of safety issues,” reports Chris Cook, Director of Emergency Preparedness and Response at the Health District. “The CDC and FDA agree that if your child received one of these recalled vaccines, they are protected against the H1N1 virus and do not need to be revaccinated as a result of this recall,” Cook said. “There are no safety concerns with this recall. There is nothing more that folks need to do.”

Cook mentioned that there have been two other non-safety-related recalls of H1N1 vaccine this season. “At this point we are just letting people know about it. It’s just one of those things that you read about and then move on. The kids that received the vaccine are safe and protected from H1N1.”

During their time at the clinic in the Miami Valley Centre Mall, the Health District vaccinated nearly 14,000 people. Cook said they saw a lot of children come through the clinic. “A lot of parents made the smart choice to get their kids vaccinated,” Cook said. “We are still seeing people come in to the Health District each day to get the H1N1 vaccine – and a lot of second doses for kids too.” Kids age 9 years old and under need two doses of H1N1 vaccine separated by twenty-eight days to be fully protected from the flu.

The flu season usually runs through March and has several peaks in the number of cases. “We have at least two more months of flu season ahead. This is still the perfect time to get the vaccine,” said Cook.

The Health District continues to offer the free H1N1 vaccine at their offices in Troy in the Hobart Center for County Government. Vaccine is available weekdays from 8am until 3:30pm. For more information visit their website at www.miamicountyhealth.net or call 937-440-8105.

SIDEBAR

Seasonal FluMist for Kids Available

The Health District has about 30 doses of seasonal flu nasal spray vaccine for kids age 18 years old and under. The FluMist nasal spray can be given to kids who do not have any chronic medical conditions such as asthma. The seasonal vaccine is only \$10 at the Health District; however, no one will be turned away for inability to pay. This seasonal vaccine will only be available through this Friday.