

Parents of children in kindergarten through grade 5:

The H1N1 Flu Mist Vaccination Program will start soon!

How?

Grant funds have been made available through the federal government to support an H1N1 Flu Mist vaccine program in Carroll County elementary schools.

Why?

- H1N1 Influenza (Swine Flu) causes fever and respiratory illnesses in people of all ages, especially children. Children can be "spreaders" of Flu to their families and communities.
- Vaccinating children in their school is an efficient way to help protect them and their families against the H1N1 Flu. Also, a school-based program means parents don't have to miss work or other activities to vaccinate their children.

What?

- The State of Maryland is conducting the H1N1 school-based Flu Mist vaccination program using a licensed Flu Mist vaccine given in the school. The vaccine is being offered at no charge.
- The flu mist vaccine is scheduled for November pending receipt of the vaccine. At that time, nurses in your child's school will give the H1N1 Flu Mist vaccine to eligible children whose parents agree to participate in this program. A second dose of the nasal-spray Flu vaccine will be given to eligible children who are nine (9) years old or younger approximately four (4) weeks later.

About the vaccine:

Carroll County will provide the H1N1 Flu Mist vaccine to healthy children in kindergarten through grade 5. A CDC fact sheet about the nasal-spray

vaccine will be sent to you to provide more specific information about the vaccine. It also describes who should not receive the vaccine.

How to sign up:

If you want your child to receive the H1N1 Flu Mist vaccine for free in their school, you will need to complete and sign two consent forms and return them to your child's homeroom teacher. These forms will be sent home soon. Look for them beginning the week of October 12, 2009.

What will happen next:

The H1N1 Flu Mist vaccine dose will be given to children during school hours in November and December. Specific dates will be provided when they are available.

For more information call the Carroll County Health Department:
410-876-4921 or 410-876-4922.