



COUNTY OF BUCKS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Neshaminy Manor Center, 1282 Almshouse Road, Doylestown, PA 18901 - 215-345-3318

FIELD OFFICES

Bucks County Government Services Center, 7321 New Falls Road, Levittown, PA 19055 - 215-949-5805

Bucks County Government Services Center, 261 California Road, Quakertown, PA 18951 - 215-529-7000

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Director

DAVID C. DAMSKER, M.D., M.P.H.

October 5, 2009

Dear Parent,

Vaccines are the best way to prevent the flu. This year, there will be two types of flu vaccine offered over the fall and winter, one for seasonal flu and one for H1N1 flu. The seasonal flu vaccine is available in many places throughout the community such as local pharmacies or your child's doctor. The Bucks County Department of Health recommends that all school-age children get vaccinated every year against seasonal flu. Please make plans now for your child to be vaccinated against seasonal flu as soon as possible.

This year, an H1N1 flu vaccine will also be available starting in late fall and is recommended for school age children. We are working with your child's school district on plans to provide H1N1 flu vaccine to students of all ages through school vaccination clinics. You will receive information about the times and locations of the H1N1 flu vaccination clinics in the next few weeks. There will be no cost for this vaccine.

Please read the enclosed Vaccine Information Sheets regarding the disease and the two types of vaccine, one for the flu shot and one for the nasal mist. After reading the information, please decide whether you would like to have your child vaccinated for the H1N1 flu. If you would like to have your child vaccinated, please indicate which type(s) of vaccinations are acceptable, sign and date the enclosed consent form, and return it to school. If you do not want to have your child vaccinated or do not return the consent form, your child will not be vaccinated- this vaccine is not mandatory. If at any time you change your mind about having your child vaccinated, please contact your child's school nurse to remove his/her name from the list.

If you have any further questions about the vaccine or the vaccination clinics, please contact your school nurse. Please also visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu> and also <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/parents> for more information especially for parents.

Sincerely,

David Damsker, MD, MPH

Director

Bucks County Department of Health