

PRESS RELEASE
November 22, 2004

MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
411 NORTH 5TH ST
SHELTON, WA 98584
(360) 427-9670 EXT. 419

TO: KMAS, KRXV, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN

RE: Update on Flu Vaccine Program for Mason County

Mason County Health Department has received their final allocation of Flu Vaccine from the Centers for Disease Control. We have 1,300 doses on hand and will be distributing approximately 500 doses to private Medical Providers in the community. Individuals meeting the Centers for Disease Control criteria for high risk groups should continue to fill out the Health Department Flu Shot form available at the Health Department, on the Mason County web site at www.co.mason.wa.us, some county Post Offices and Libraries. Please return to Mason County Health Department in person or via mail. All individuals returning the form prior to December 2nd will be given an appointment to receive their flu shot at our next scheduled clinic on December 2nd at Mason County Health Department, 303 N. 4th Street, Shelton, WA between the hours of 8:30 to 11:30 AM and 1:00 to 4:00 PM. During this clinic, we will provide parking in front of our building in order to accommodate handicapped and disabled individuals, and will administer the Flu vaccine, if needed, while they remain in their car. After this clinic we will continue to process requests for flu vaccine and will work them into our regular clinic schedule until the flu vaccine supply (**800 doses**) is exhausted. The cost for the Flu vaccine is \$18.00 or we will bill Medicaid and Medicare if covered.

We are also offering the Pneumonia vaccine at these clinics for a cost of \$22.00 or we will bill Medicaid and Medicare if covered. We will also make available a Tetanus/Diphtheria booster (given every 10 years) for a cost of \$19.00.

The Health Department has a small supply of Flu vaccine available for children 6-23 months of age, or those meeting other high-risk criteria. We have also distributed children's Flu vaccine to Oakland Bay Pediatrics, so patients of this practice may contact them to schedule an appointment.

For the latest information, please telephone our automated information line at (360) 427-9670 or (360) 275- 4467 ext. 599. For additional information, you may contact Lydia Buchheit at 360-427-9670, Ext. 404, or Steve Kutz at ext. 260.

Ron Henrickson
Mason County Administrator