

NEWS RELEASE

November 10, 2009

MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**411 NORTH 5TH ST
SHELTON, WA 98584**

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

RE: Mason County H1n1 Vaccine Update

H1N1 vaccine continues to arrive in Mason County and we are now able to expand the priority groups.

The priority groups who qualify for vaccine will now include:

Pregnant women

Ages 6 months to 24 years

Health Care Workers/ Emergency Medical Personnel

Those who care for children under 6 months

Ages 25-64 with chronic medical conditions

and

Home health care providers of those chronically ill (direct patient care providers) that should be vaccinated include:

Home Health Agency staff who provide in home care

Assisted Living Facility health care staff

Exceptional Forester Staff (EFI)

As vaccine availability increases it will be available in all the local pharmacies and supermarkets that offer seasonal flu shots as well as our local providers and clinics. Mason County Public Health will be partnering with Mason General Hospital to conduct a Community Walk-in Clinic on Thursday, November 19th from 5-8 PM at Shelton Family Medicine. This clinic will be open to not only Shelton Family Medicine patients but also other Mason County residents in these priority groups who have no medical provider or cannot afford to pay for the vaccine administration fee.

For more information call The Mason County Flu line 427-9670 ext. 599 or from Belfair (360) 275-4467 Ext. 599. Or go to www.co.mason.wa.us.

Tim Sheldon
Chair

Lynda Ring Erickson
Commissioner

Ross Gallagher
Commissioner