



Public Health

Solutions

District Health Department

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October 8, 2015

Thank you for participating in the flu vaccination program this year. As always, we appreciate the partnerships formed with schools in our district to help prevent the spread of influenza.

As you know, PHS has traditionally offered the flu vaccination in two forms; FluMist (nasal application) and injectible vaccine (flu shot). Due to a problem with the last manufactured lot, we will not get any more FluMist until November at earliest. Consequently we have limited doses of mist and will need to primarily offer injections instead. We plan to give the mist we have to younger children until it runs out. This is a nationwide problem. We have been working to secure as much FluMist as possible but as we said there is now a nationwide shortage of flu mist.

As you know there is no difference in the effectiveness in the shots and mist, but we expect some may be disappointed in not having the mist option. We regret the inconvenience but want to be sure you are informed about this change.

- **Effective 10/12/15, we will offer injectible flu vaccine (a shot) to all students over preschool age and staff members. We will provide FluMist (nasal application) to preschool age children until our supply is out.**
- **Should we begin to receive FluMist as originally anticipated, we will again offer it to all students and staff as we have in the past. There is simply no guarantee, at this point, as to when we may begin receiving the FluMist or how much we will receive.**

We would ask each school district to decide how best to inform parents of this change. We are here to help so please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of assistance.

Again, we greatly appreciate the time and effort that schools give us to coordinate the flu vaccination clinics. Please do not hesitate to give us a call with any questions.

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