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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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OCEAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT MOVES FORWARD TO INNOCULATE AGAINST H1N1 WITH LIMITED SUPPLY OF VACCINE

The Ocean County Health Department (OCHD) is continuing its proactive steps to protect Ocean County residents by scheduling continuing H1N1 clinics. Within days of its first small shipment, 5 clinics were set for the highest priority groups. Beginning this week, 2 walk-in clinics were scheduled for injectable vaccine for priority groups.

Although the Ocean County Health Department has an additional order of 10,000 doses ordered, orders are being filled only as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) receive vaccine from the manufacturers. As the vaccine is received at the Ocean County Health Department, clinics will be arranged immediately and the general public notified of times, dates and priority groups through ads, the media and at the OCHD website at www.ochd.org. The OCHD is in constant communication with the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services regarding shipment of vaccine to assure the OCHD order is filled as quickly as possible.

The U. S. Department of Health and Human Services stated that although 40 million doses were expected by this time, by last Friday only 16.1 million doses have been distributed throughout the United States.* By December, the CDC should receive a total of 150 million doses, which according to the Federal Government, will be enough doses for those needing or wishing to be vaccinated.

The Ocean County Health Department will continue to advise both the media and schools on clinic times and dates. If you have any questions regarding clinics, please call 732-341-9700, ext. 7502 or the New Jersey State H1N1 Hotline at 1-866-321-9571.

* DHHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelious on Good Morning America, Early Show, Today Show

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