

Jackson County Department of Public Health

Anna Lippard Deputy Health Director 828-587-8225 2022-42 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 30, 2022

FLU VACCINES AVAILABLE STARTING OCTOBER 4th

With the flu season approaching, the Jackson County Department of Public Health (JCDPH) urges all residents to protect themselves, their families, and those around them by getting vaccinated against the flu. As we enter into flu season, it is important to remember that COVID-19 is still around and in our community.

The flu can be a serious illness, especially for adults over the age of 65 years, children under five, pregnant women, and those with certain medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends flu vaccination for everyone 6 months and older with any licensed, age-appropriate flu vaccine. New this season, is a preferential recommendation for the use of higher dose and adjuvanted flu vaccines in people 65 and older over standard dose, unadjuvanted flu vaccines. Vaccination against the flu can make illness milder and reduce the risk of more serious outcomes. According to the CDC, the recommended timing of vaccination is similar to last season. For most people who need only one dose for the season, September and October are generally good times to get vaccinated. However, it's important to know that vaccination after October can still provide protection during the peak of flu season.

JCDPH will begin offering flu vaccines to the public on October 4, 2021. Drive thru clinics will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays 2PM-6PM, throughout the month of October in the health department parking lot. Prices range from \$49 to \$84, depending on the type of vaccine administered. No appointments are necessary and a variety of insurances are accepted.

For questions about the flu, call the Flu Line at 828-587-8201 or the Health Department's main line at 828-586-8994.

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