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Established in 1945, DuPage County Health Department promotes physical and emotional health; prevents illness injury and disability; protects health from environmental risk factors, and strives to assure the provision of accessible, quality service.

October 7, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Health Department Urges Residents to Get Vaccinated for Flu as COVID-19 Cases Remain High

DUPAGE COUNTY – The DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) is urging residents to protect themselves, their families, and those around them by getting vaccinated against [influenza](#) (flu). This is important for individual and community health as the County enters flu season while also experiencing a surge of COVID-19 caused by the Delta variant.

The flu is a highly contagious respiratory illness which attacks the nose, throat, and lungs. Common symptoms include fever, headache, tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, nasal congestion, and body aches. This potentially serious disease may lead to hospitalization and sometimes even death.

“The best protection we have against the flu is the flu vaccine. Call your health care provider or local pharmacy to get yours today and help lower your risk of co-infection with flu and COVID-19,” said Karen Ayala, Health Department Executive Director.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has said it is safe to get COVID-19 vaccinations and flu shots at the same time. Annual flu vaccines are especially important for children ages 6 months to 4 years, adults age 50 and older, nursing home residents, people with underlying health conditions such as heart disease and lung disease, people who are immunosuppressed, and people who are pregnant.

While children under 12 are not yet eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine, those ages 6 months and older are strongly encouraged to get the flu vaccine.

To increase accessibility to all DuPage County residents, the DuPage Health Coalition (DHC) is offering free flu vaccine vouchers to low-income, uninsured residents of DuPage County. Several local Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) are also offering flu vaccines to their uninsured patients. To learn more or request a voucher, visit accessdupage.org/flu.



WEAR
A MASK



WATCH
YOUR DISTANCE



WASH
YOUR HANDS