



807 Capital Street, Yankton, SD 57078

October 9, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Yankton County and Bon Homme County Offices of Emergency Management are holding a free children's influenza vaccination clinic Saturday October 21st 2017. The flu shot distribution will double as a full-scale exercise of the local and regional point of distribution (POD) plan, part of a larger local emergency operation plan.

Influenza shots will be available for children from six months to 18 years old, while supplies last, at the Yankton High School auxiliary gymnasium, 1801 Summit Street in Yankton.

Parental consent forms are required. They will be distributed through the Yankton School District or can be obtained on the Yankton County Office of Emergency Management web site at <http://www.co.yankton.sd.us/custom/emergency-management>. Consent forms will also be available on site the day of the clinic.

For more information contact the Yankton County Office of Emergency Management at 605-668-5289.

The clinic and exercise are being held in cooperation with the Yankton and Bon Homme County Community Health Offices and the South Dakota Department of Health.

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Influenza fact sheet – to be release next week – 10 days out from event

The Yankton and Bon Homme County Offices of Emergency Management, in cooperation with the South Dakota Department of Health, are holding a free children's influenza vaccination clinic Saturday October 21st 2017, at Yankton High School. Free influenza shots will be available for children from six months to 18 years old, while supplies last. Consent forms will be distributed through the Yankton School system through a link.

Influenza can be more serious than the common cold. It can lead to serious complications, including hospitalization or death. CDC estimates that since 2010, flu-related hospitalizations among children younger than 5 years have ranged from 7,000 to 26,000 in the United States.

- A flu shot can keep your child from getting sick with flu.
- Influenza can be more serious than the common cold. It can lead to serious complications, including hospitalization or death. CDC estimates that since 2010, flu-related hospitalizations among children younger than 5 years have ranged from 7,000 to 26,000 in the United States.
- Since 2004-2005, flu-related deaths in children reported to CDC during regular flu seasons have ranged from a low of 37 deaths (2011-2012) to 171 deaths (2012-2013).
- Children, especially school-aged children, are more likely to catch the flu. Millions of children get sick with flu every season. A typical flu illness can mean missing a week or more of school. Once infected, children can spread the flu to parents and siblings, other family members, and friends.
- Vaccinating your child protects people around them (like grandparents, babies or anyone with long-term health problems) who are more vulnerable to flu.
- Children with certain long-term health conditions (like asthma or diabetes) and all children younger than 5 years are at high risk of serious illness when they get the flu.
- Flu vaccine is not perfect. Some vaccinated people may still get sick, but if they do, flu vaccine may make their illness milder.
- Flu vaccines are among the safest medical products in use. Hundreds of millions of people have safely gotten flu vaccines for more than 50 years. There may be mild side effects from getting vaccinated, but these are so much less of a problem than getting sick with the flu!

Contact information:

Yankton Office of Emergency Management
605-668-5289
yktncoem@iw.net

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Anyone interested in volunteering to help make the influenza clinic a success can go to the South Department of Health web site to sign up: <https://volunteers.sd.gov/index.php>
Helper are needed

We are looking for people to assist in all areas of the Point of Distribution exercise.
Examples: Greeters, Runners, Vaccinator, Handing Forms, Licensed Medical Professionals, Command Staff helpers, and other positions.

Contact:

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