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Chiba City “A/H1N1 Influenza”
~ Priority Vaccines Are Now Being Administered ~

Published by:

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Introduction

In order to reduce the amount of influenza-related deaths, as well as congestion at medical centers, the City of Chiba has started distributing vaccinations to high risk individuals such as expecting mothers and those with underlying medical conditions since November 16th.

This pamphlet will detail the A/H1N1 booster shot and the specifics of both the priority demographic, and vaccine schedule.

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[I] Priority Demographic

Those who contract the new strain of influenza tend to recover from the disease with little to no issue. However, pregnant women and individuals with preexisting health problems are said to be prone to experience more severe complications.

Accordingly, the national government of Japan has decided to provide immunizations to this at risk group, as defined in the following chart.

Inoculations for all other individuals will be planned and distributed in response to the spread of the illness.

Demographic	Vaccine Administration Start Date
Expecting Mothers and Those with Underlying Medical Conditions	From mid-November 2009
Infants (one year olds to children not yet enrolled in elementary school)	From early December 2009 (planned)
Elementary School Students Grades 1 ~ 3	From mid-December 2009 (planned)
Guardians of infants less than one year of age	

Guardians of those who classify in the above priority groups but are unable to receive the vaccination due to physical limiting factors	From late December 2009 (planned)
Elementary School Students Grades 4 ~ 6	
Those who Fall Within the Middle School Age Range	From early January 2010 (planned)
Those who Fall Within the High School Age Range	From mid January 2010 (planned)
Senior Citizens (65 years of age and up)	From mid February 2010 (planned)

※ This schedule has been reproduced in accordance to the directive issued by the national government on November 17th. These dates are subject to change pending the availability of booster shots. Please visit the website for the most up to date version.

C

Those with Preexisting Health Problems

The definition of “individuals with underlying medical conditions” as officially recognized by the Japanese government is as follows. Note that whether or not you classify into this demographic is up to the discretion of a medical doctor. Please consult this matter with your primary physician.

Illness	Explanation
Chronic Respiratory Illness	Those suffering from bronchial asthma, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) or at risk for accidentally ingesting respiratory tract secretions
Chronic Heart Disease	Those suffering from blood circulation issues (not including high blood pressure).
Chronic Kidney Disease	Those receiving dialysis treatment or who recently underwent a kidney transplant.
Chronic Liver Disease	Those suffering from chronic hepatitis.
Neurological / Neuromuscular Disorder	Those in poor physical condition brought on by an immune system deficiency or respiratory disorder.
Blood Disorder	Not including those suffering from idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP – low blood platelet count), hemolytic anemia or iron-deficiency anemia and not receiving

	treatment.
Diabetes	Pregnant women or young children suffering from diabetes. Also, those who rely on insulin or oral antidiabetic agents.
Decreased Immune System Functionality Due to Disease or Medical Treatment	Those suffering from malignant intestinal tumors, rheumatic arthritis, connective tissue disorder, endocrine disease, gastrointestinal illness or HIV.
Pediatric Chronic Illness	Those suffering from a chromosome anomaly or severe physical/mental handicap (children and adults alike).

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A/H1N1 Vaccine Consultation Desk (Operating Hours / Weekdays 9:00 ~ 17:00)

Chiba City A/H1N1 Influenza Consultation Center	043 (238) 1792 or (238) 1793
Chuo Health & Welfare Center, Health Section	043 (221) 2581
Midori Health & Welfare Center, Health Section	043 (292) 2630
Koteshashi Health Center	043 (259) 0251
Wakaba Health & Welfare Center, Health Section	043 (233) 8714
Mihama Health & Welfare Center, Health Section	043 (270) 2221
Konakadai Health Center	043 (256) 9418

Homepage: “Regarding Chiba City A/H1N1 Influenza Vaccinations” @ <http://www.city.chiba.jp/hokenfukushi/kenkou/iryoinfluenza-vaccine.html>

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Please have your primary care physician administer your inoculation.

Certain medical institutions aside from the ones listed below have also been authorized to distribute A/H1N1 booster shots. Therefore, it is recommended that you first confirm with your doctor regarding whether or not immunizations are offered at their clinic. For those who are not under the care of a regular doctor, please contact a medical office from the list below. As well, please note that at present, the total number of influenza vaccines have not yet been shipped to the city – instead, they will be received in batches.

We kindly ask that you withhold from making any inquiries regarding the vaccination until the distribution period for your specific demographic group has arrived. For more information on who qualifies as a priority group, as well as the

administration schedule, please reference the website or contact the A/H1N1 Vaccine Consultation Desk (listed at the bottom of page one).

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Listing of Chiba City Authorized A/H1N1 Vaccine Administration Points (As of November 17th, 2009)

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[IV] Vaccine Cost

The A/H1N1 vaccine is administered for a fee. However, financial aid is available to those who meet certain criteria.

Cost of Inoculation

First Shot	3,600 JPY
Second Shot	2,550 JPY ※
Total	6,150 JPY

(※ The price of the second shot will be administered at the original 3,600 JPY if sought after at a different clinic from the first immunization.)

[Number of Shots] At present, two shots are planned to be provided to those between one and eighteen years of age, and one vaccination is to be administered to all others.

Monetary Subsidies for A/H1N1 Vaccinations

The city offers financial aid equal to the full amount of the cost of the immunization to residents of Chiba City who fall within any of the above priority demographics. For those who qualify, **you are required to submit all necessary documentation to the medical institution** to receive your vaccination at no charge. For those receiving the booster shots at an out-of-town clinic, it is required that you first remit payment of your own accord after which you will be reimbursed by the city. (See Note 1)

Target	Required Documents
Welfare Recipients	Certificate of Welfare Eligibility
Japanese War Orphans Left Behind in China and Currently Receiving Monetary Assistance	One of the following: i) Certificate of Eligibility to Receive Financial Aid; or ii) Copy of Proof of Identity (of the aid recipient)

Those Whose Entire Household (Self Included) is Exempt from Paying Municipal Inhabitant Taxes	One of the following: i) Copy of the Fiscal 2009 Nursing Insurance Premium Notice (those 65 years of age and up); ii) Copy of the Certificate of Maximum Payment for Nursing Premiums (those attending care facilities etc.); or iii) Qualifying Certificate to Receive Monetary Aid for A/H1N1 Influenza Vaccinations ※
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※ To have the “Qualifying Certificate to Receive Monetary Aid for A/H1N1 Influenza Vaccinations” issued,

◇ Application Forms and Household Agreement Forms can be downloaded from the dedicated website (URL listed at the bottom of page one) or picked up from local ward offices, health & welfare centers, health centers, civic centers and liaison offices.

◇ Please submit completed forms (signed by all family members) to any of the following drop-off locations.

We are predicting a high volume of congestion at application centers and so, we kindly ask that you file your application at the time when boosters are administered for your demographic (schedule listed on page two).

Note 1 – For those who qualify for financial subsidies from the city, please bring your “Proof of Receipt of the A/H1N1 Influenza Vaccination” alongside the bill and your personal seal to your ward’s application center.

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Application Process

H1

For those receiving welfare

For those receiving financial assistance → Visit your ward’s Social Support Services Section and have them issue either a ① Certificate of Welfare Eligibility or ② Certificate of Eligibility to Receive Financial Aid (a Copy of Proof of Identity will also suffice) → Submit one of the above three documents → Receive the A/H1N1 vaccine at no charge

世帯全員が市町村民税非課税の方 = For households exempt from paying municipal

inhabitant taxes

H2

(65 years of age and up) → One of the following forms of documentation is required: a ① Copy of the Fiscal 2009 Nursing Insurance Premium Notice (※Insurance levels 1, 2 or 3) or a ② Copy of the Certificate of Maximum Payment for Nursing Premiums (※Individuals less than 64 years of age and who possess the latter document can submit this as part of the application process.) →

H2A

For those who are in possession of the papers → Submit one of them → Receive the A/H1N1 vaccine at no charge

H2B

For those who have lost them → Contact the Public Health Office, Infectious Disease Control Section at 043 (238) 9941 → Have the “Qualifying Certificate to Receive Monetary Aid for A/H1N1 Influenza Vaccinations” issued → Submit this document → Receive the A/H1N1 vaccine at no charge

H3

(64 years of age and younger) → Complete the i) Application Form to Receive Financial Subsidies for the A/H1N1 Vaccination and ii) Household Agreement Form (※Signatures from all family members are required.) → Submit this at your local ward’s A/H1N1 Vaccine Financial Aid Application Office → Have the “Qualifying Certificate to Receive Monetary Aid for A/H1N1 Influenza Vaccinations” issued → Submit this document → Receive the A/H1N1 vaccine at no charge

H4

(Those who moved after January 2nd, 2009) → Complete the i) Application Form to Receive Financial Subsidies for the A/H1N1 Vaccination and attain a ii) Proof of Household-wide Exemption from Municipal Inhabitant Taxes issued by the municipality in which you resided as of January 1, 2009 (※The applicant’s signature is required.) → Submit this at your local ward’s A/H1N1 Vaccine Financial Aid Application Office → Have the “Qualifying Certificate to Receive Monetary Aid for A/H1N1 Influenza Vaccinations” issued → Submit this document → Receive the A/H1N1 vaccine at no charge

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Application Centers (Operating Hours / Weekdays 9:00 ~ 17:00)

For those 64 years of age and under, or who moved recently (these offices also accept applications for monetary aid for H1N1 influenza vaccinations), please visit:	
Chuo Ward	4-5-1 Chuo, Chuo-ku 〒260-8511 Chuo Health & Welfare Center, Qiball 11F, Consultation Room
Hanamigawa Ward	1-1 Mizuho, Hanamigawa-ku 〒262-8733 Hanamigawa Ward Office 2F, Conference Room 2-3
Inage Ward	4-12-1 Anagawa, Inage-ku 〒263-8733 Inage Ward Office 2F, Lobby Temporary Booth
Wakaba Ward	1258-20 Kaizukacho, Wakaba-ku 〒264-8550 Wakaba Health & Welfare Center 1F, Comprehensive Consultation Counter
Midori Ward	226-1 Kamatoricho, Midori-ku 〒266-8550 Midori Health & Welfare Center 1F, Comprehensive Consultation Counter 3-15-3 Oyumino, Midori-ku 〒266-8733 Midori Ward Office 2F, Health & Welfare Center Liaison Counter (drop-off only)
Mihama Ward	5-15-2 Masago, Mihama-ku 〒261-8581 Mihama Health & Welfare Center 1F, Comprehensive Consultation Counter

For those 65 years of age and up, and who have lost their “Fiscal 2009 Nursing Insurance Premium Notice” and “Certificate of Maximum Payment for Nursing Premiums”, please contact:	
The Public Health Office, Infectious Disease Control Section	1-3-9 Saiwaicho, Mihama-ku 〒261-8755 Chiba City Comprehensive Medical Center 2F TEL: 043 (238) 9941

- For application details, please contact the A/H1N1 Vaccine Consultation Desk (details listed at the bottom of page one).

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[II] Vaccination Schedule

At present, there is a limited quantity of available A/H1N1 influenza

immunizations. As such, the city will endeavor to administer these vaccines to the people of Chiba on a priority basis. This aim will be carried out through adherence to a country-issued timeline for booster shot administrations.

The schedule to the left reflects the information passed down by the national government as of November 17th, and accordingly, may not be up to date.

Please reference the website or contact the A/H1N1 Vaccine Consultation Desk (listed at the bottom of page one) for more information regarding distribution dates.

National Vaccine Administration Timeline (Tentative)

Medical Staff → Pregnant Women / Those with Underlying Medical Conditions (High Priority) → Those with Underlying Medical Conditions (Low Priority) / Infants (one year olds to children not yet enrolled in elementary school) → Elementary School Students Grades 1 ~ 3 → Guardians of infants less than one year of age → Elementary School Students Grades 4 ~ 6 → Middle School Students / High School Students / Senior Citizens (in that order)

October | November | December | January | February | March

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[III] Vaccination Process

Those who fall within the priority demographic and desire to have the immunization administered are kindly asked to complete the following steps.

① Discuss the issue with your physician

Please make an appointment with your health clinic to receive the booster shot once the time slot for your group has arrived.

For those who do not have a permanent doctor, please reference the list of medical institutions on page four.

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② Prepare the necessary documentation for submission

You are required to present certain papers at the reception desk when going for your vaccination.

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③ Administration of Booster Shot

Please visit the doctor's office on the day of your appointment.

Note that the site of the injection may swell momentarily, but in most cases, this will pass without giving rise to any complications. If your symptoms seem to last for a prolonged period of time, or should you feel concerned about your physical condition,

please do not hesitate to contact your physician.

The Efficacy of the Vaccine and Associated Risks

While immunizations are known to defend the vast majority of recipients from witnessing a worsening of symptoms, there are instances in which one may experience swelling, a fever, and in rare cases, even succumb to serious sickness.

We kindly ask you that acknowledge this fact and **make an informed decision** in terms of whether or not to receive the inoculation.

Target	Required Documentation
Pregnant Women	Maternal and Child Health Handbook
Those with Preexisting Health Conditions	Certificate of Eligibility for Priority Inoculation (issued by your primary physician) ※ You need not have the vaccine administered at your regular doctor's office.
One Year Old Infants ~ Elementary School Grade 3 Students	Government-issued documentation to validate age (Maternal and Child Health Handbook, Health Insurance Card etc.)
Guardians of Infants Less Than One Year of Age	Government-issued documentation to prove residence in the same quarters as the infant (Maternal and Child Health Handbook, Health Insurance Card or Resident Card etc.)
Guardians of those who classify in the above priority groups but are unable to receive the vaccination due to physical limiting factors	i) Certificate of Eligibility for Priority Inoculation (this applies to those with underlying medical issues as well) ii) Government-issued documentation to prove residence in the same quarters as the priority individual (Maternal and Child Health Handbook, Health Insurance Card or Resident Card etc.)
Elementary School Grade 4 Students ~ Those who Fall Within the High School Age Range	Government-issued documentation to validate age (Health Insurance Card, Resident Card, Student ID etc.)

Senior Citizen (65 Years of Age and Up)	Government-issued documentation to validate age (Health Insurance Card, Resident Card, Driver's License etc.)
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Regarding Immunizations for the Seasonal Flu

There has been a flood of concerns and inquiries at health offices and health & welfare centers from the people of Chiba City, stating that they are unable to make appointments to be inoculated against seasonal influenza at local medical institutions.

This year, local vaccine manufacturers are faced with the task of producing both regular flu and A/H1N1 booster shots.

Accordingly, production of seasonal influenza vaccinations is set at about 80% of that of other years. As well, since October, we have witnessed a marked increase in the number of individuals requesting vaccinations. This has given birth to a situation in which supply cannot satisfy demand.

While there is an adequate amount of vaccines available to protect the entire population of Japan, Chiba City is unable to secure the required number of these booster shots on its own.

As such, the City of Chiba is cooperating with the prefecture, wholesalers, and medical institutions to confirm the stock of vaccinations as well as whether or not immunizations are being administered or not. However, due to the scarcity of vaccines, the city is hard pressed to provide the people with up-to-the-minute information regarding where they can receive protection against this disease.

We kindly ask that everyone gargle and wash their hands diligently, as well as avoid crowded areas as these practices will lend to preventing the contraction of the flu.

Please contact your doctor immediately should you develop a sudden fever alongside other flu-like symptoms.

Guardian Accompaniment of Those 16 Years of Age and Younger

The city requires that a guardian (either a relative or legal caretaker) accompany anyone 16 years of age and younger (as well as wards, otherwise known as incapacitated adults), and who qualifies to receive a priority vaccine.

For Those Who Fall Within the Middle School Age Range

Those under 16 and younger, and who fall within the middle school age range may receive the A/H1N1 vaccination without having their guardian present should they

present the following documentation.

Required Documentation

“Regarding the A/H1N1 Influenza Vaccination” Pamphlet

(Full 5 pages including explanation and medical questionnaire)

※A guardian must have signed the form or else the shot will not be administered.

Distribution Locations

- City Homepage (download and print off the website)
- Local ward A/H1N1 Vaccine Consultation Desks