

DHHS Announces Activation of H1N1 Flu Public Inquiry Line

Concord, NH - The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services is announcing the activation of New Hampshire's H1N1 Flu Public Inquiry Line. DHHS is urging residents with questions about the H1N1 influenza virus, the H1N1 vaccine, and any other questions related to H1N1 to contact 2-1-1 NH by dialing 2-1-1.

"People have questions about the H1N1 virus and the status of the supply of H1N1 vaccine. We are activating the public inquiry line because we want to be sure people have access to good information are getting answers to their questions and are taking the proper steps to prevent the spread of the virus," which is why we are activating the public inquiry line," said Gov. John Lynch.

"We understand that people are concerned about H1N1, particularly with the delay in vaccines being made and shipped from private manufacturers. But we want to assure the public that the vaccine will be coming," said DHHS Public Health Director Dr. José Montero. "We want to encourage everyone, in the absence of the vaccine, to take common sense preventative measures to avoid becoming sick with H1N1 or any other illness. This includes washing your hands frequently, covering your mouth when you cough or sneeze, and staying home from work or school if you are sick."

DHHS has been working with 2-1-1 NH, (a program of United Ways of NH in partnership with Public Service of NH, The State of NH and Exeter Hospital) to be ready to respond as the State's public inquiry line for all questions regarding H1N1 influenza. Initially the public inquiry line will be open for H1N1 related questions from 8 am - 5 pm Monday through Friday.

For more information on H1N1 flu, visit www.dhhs.nh.gov or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu.