

**Broome County Health Department
To Offer More Flu Vaccinations
Recorded Information Line – 01/13/05**

The Broome County Health Department, 225 Front Street, Binghamton, NY will offer flu vaccinations to individuals who fall into the priority groups on Wednesday, January 19, 2005, from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Thursday, January 20, 2005 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. There are no plans at this time to schedule additional flu clinics, unless the flu eligibility guidelines are further relaxed by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The priority groups established by the CDC for immunization at this time include:

- adults aged 50 years and over;
- persons aged 2–49 years with underlying chronic medical conditions;
- all women who will be pregnant during the influenza season;
- residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities;
- children aged 2–18 years on chronic aspirin therapy;
- health-care workers involved in direct patient care;
- out-of-home caregivers and household contacts of people in high-risk groups, such as people aged \geq 65 years; people with chronic medical conditions or weakened immune systems; and children under age 2; and
- all children aged 6–23 months.

Parents are advised to seek flu shots for children under the age of 3 with a chronic medical condition and those between the ages of 6-23 months at their regular medical provider.

Note: The Broome County Health Department will provide flu shots to children in these priority groups by appointment only. Parents should call **778-2839** to schedule an appointment.

For those people who are on Medicare, Medicare-Part B will pay for the flu vaccine. Individuals must present their Medicare Card to clinic staff. **Those participating in a Managed Medicare program must go to their primary care provider.** All other persons will be charged a fee of \$20.

Residents are urged to call the Health Department Influenza Information Line at 778-3911, Option 1, to hear a recording of the current clinic schedule or go to the Broome County Government website at www.gobroomecounty.com and click on the flu icon.