



Flu Alert

Welcome to the **Boston Flu Alert system for Businesses**. The City of Boston continues to operate at Level 1 status, and we continue to see a higher than expected number of cases of influenza like illness in the community for this time of year. For information about the actions required at this level, please review the [sector-specific grid](#).

Any type of flu can be serious for someone who has asthma. An article in today's Boston Globe underscores just how serious 2009 H1N1 flu can be for people with that breathing condition. **In Boston 34% of those hospitalized because of H1N1 infection had a diagnosis of asthma** -- a much higher percentage than those with other chronic health conditions. You can [CLICK HERE](#) to read the Globe story. Also this week, the World Health Organization issued a statement saying that while the H1N1 flu seems to have peaked in the United States that the pandemic is not over. The WHO statement reiterated that pandemic flu comes in waves, and that illnesses could rise again. We have a long flu season in Massachusetts, so there is still plenty of time to get vaccinated.

There's never been a better time to get a 2009 H1N1 vaccination -- especially if you or someone you care about has a chronic health condition like asthma. Supplies of vaccine are greater than ever before, and now everyone who wants it is eligible to receive the vaccine. There are many vaccine clinics throughout Boston in the month of January.

Make a New Year's Resolution to Get Vaccinated in January – Please visit our clinic page by [CLICKING HERE](#) to find a vaccine location near you.

Check the Facts and Stay Informed – Visit www.bphc.org/flu and sign up for our [Flu Alerts](#) for the latest information.

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