



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Public Affairs

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H1N1 Immunization Campaign Targets College Students

RALEIGH — In response to continued cases of H1N1 on college campuses across the state, the N.C. Division of Public Health is sponsoring a college immunization campaign during the month of February to protect young people against the flu. "While flu cases are not at the level they were back in the fall, we are seeing clear evidence that H1N1 is still striking young people," said Zack Moore, M.D., public health epidemiologist.

From late January through early February, student health centers outpaced other providers in cases of influenza-like illness. A similar trend was evident during the fall wave of H1N1, with student health centers consistently seeing higher-than-average rates of flu. However, statistics from the state's Immunization Branch show college-age individuals remain the least immunized overall in the state. As of Jan. 30, only 5 percent of 19- to 24-year-olds had received vaccine distributed to colleges through the N.C. Division of Public Health.

"Students appear to be less interested now because H1N1 is not getting the publicity it did in the fall," said Katrin Wesner, director of Abrons Student Health Center at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. "This campaign will help us re-energize our efforts and remind people that it is not too late to be vaccinated."

College mascots are joining the campaign to encourage students to get immunized. Mascots from eight colleges and universities will be sporting bandages with the message "The Flu Stops With Me" at selected basketball games during February. In addition to their campus efforts, student health services personnel will offer immunization clinics at games to reach students and others who have not yet been vaccinated.

"This is a great opportunity for us to reach one of our most at-risk populations," said State Health Director Jeffrey Engel, M.D. "We appreciate the support of our colleges and universities in helping us get the message out about the importance of immunization."

Colleges involved in the campaign include N.C. State University, Fayetteville State University, UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC-Charlotte, North Carolina A&T, UNC-Wilmington, East Carolina University and Winston-Salem State University.

For information about H1N1 and immunization clinics, see flu.nc.gov. Students may also check with the student health center at their college or university.

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PHOTO CUTLINE: N.C. State's Mrs. Wuff is one of the mascots from eight colleges and universities across the state who will be wearing a "The Flu Stops With Me" bandage during February to support H1N1 immunization.

(CLINIC SCHEDULE FOLLOWS ON PAGE 2)



Location: 101 Blair Drive • Adams Building • Raleigh, N.C. 27603

www.ncdhhs.gov

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COLLEGE H1N1 VACCINATION CLINICS in Feb.

College students and the public will be served through on-site vaccine clinics held in conjunction with college basketball games at the eight campuses on the dates listed below. Vaccine promotion events are indicated by an asterisk (*) and will not include vaccine administration on-site, but will direct students to school-based immunization clinics during the month of February. Students are encouraged to check with their own school's Student Health Center about additional H1N1 vaccine clinics.

- Feb. 10: [NC State](#) vs. Virginia Tech (RBC Center)
- Feb. 11: [Fayetteville State University](#) vs. Shaw University (Capel Arena)
- Feb. 13: *[UNC Chapel Hill](#) vs. NC State
- Feb. 13: [Fayetteville State University](#) vs. Johnson C. Smith University (Capel Arena)
- Feb. 17: [UNC Charlotte](#) vs. Duquesne (Halton Arena)
- Feb. 17: [NC State](#) vs. Maryland (RBC Center)
- Feb. 17: [NC A&T](#) vs. S.C. State (Corbett Sports Center)
- Feb. 20: [NC State](#) vs. Wake Forest (RBC Center)
- Feb. 21: [UNC Wilmington](#) vs. Townson (Trask Coliseum)
- Feb. 24: [UNC Charlotte](#) vs. St. Joseph's (Halton Arena)
- Feb. 24: [East Carolina](#) University vs. SMU (Minges Coliseum)
- Feb. 27: [East Carolina](#) University vs. Tulsa (Minges Coliseum)
- Feb. 27: [UNC Wilmington](#) vs. William & Mary (Trask Coliseum)
- Feb. 27: [Winston Salem State University](#) vs. Florida A&M (C.E. Gaines Center - clinic may be changed to March 1)