



**STATE OF OHIO**  
Emergency Operations Center  
**NEWS RELEASE**  
*ema.ohio.gov*

Ted Strickland, Governor  
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Columbus, Ohio 43235

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ODH ENCOURAGES OHIOANS TO GET VACCINATED  
DURING NATIONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION WEEK**

COLUMBUS –As part of National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) from January 10-16, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), working with its local, state, and federal partners, is encouraging those who have not received their H1N1 vaccination to do so.

“The flu virus will be less likely to spread in the coming months if more people are vaccinated,” said ODH Director, Dr. Alvin D. Jackson. “Vaccination has proven to be the safest and most effective way to fight the flu so I encourage all Ohioans to get vaccinated.”

NIVW is a national observance that was established to highlight the importance of continuing influenza vaccination, as well as foster greater use of flu vaccine, after the holiday season and into January and beyond.

Throughout the week, ODH will be sending important information and resources to those at risk for H1N1 flu. ODH has also created a 30 second public service announcement which can be viewed at <http://powerhost.powerstream.net/008/00153/FluFighterPSA.wmv> . It also available for download at:  
<http://progressive.powerstream.net/008/00153/FlufighterPSALgProg11MB.mp4>

“The goal of this week is to educate Ohioans who have not yet received the vaccine about the importance of protecting themselves and their families against the flu,” Jackson said.

For more information on vaccine availability go to [www.flu.ohio.gov](http://www.flu.ohio.gov) or contact the ODH H1N1 information line at 1-866-800-1404 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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**Contact: State of Ohio Joint Information Center – (614) 799-6480**