

Flu Clinic Open to All Broome County Residents
Recorded Information Line – 01/25/05

With the recent flu vaccination restrictions being lifted by the New York State Department of Health, the Broome County Health Department, 225 Front Street, Binghamton, will have a walk-in clinic on Thursday, January 27, 2005, from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. “This clinic is open to anyone in Broome County who wants to get a flu vaccination,” said Diane O’Hora, Supervising Public Health Educator for the Broome County Health Department.

Flu season typically runs from November through March. In New York State flu is widespread, and Broome County continues to see new cases. The best way to protect oneself against the flu is by getting vaccinated. It takes about two weeks to build immunity after receiving the vaccine. “We want to encourage especially those who are at high-risk, and anyone else who may want the vaccine, to get it,” said O’Hora. “The current vaccine contains the A/Fujian strain and is a good match for the flu we are seeing this year.”

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 current clinic schedule or go to the Broome County Government website at www.gobroomecounty.com and click on the flu icon.