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November 27, 2019

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Public Health Observes National Influenza Vaccination Week

EL PASO, Texas – National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) is observed the week of December 1, and with the increase influenza cases in El Paso this year, the Department of Public Health is working to help stop the spread of the virus.

“The NIVW serves as an opportunity to remind our community that it is not too late to get the flu vaccine,” said Public Health Supervisor Alejandra Rodarte. “Getting vaccinated can keep you healthy and also helps to protect others around you.”

Influenza is a highly contagious disease that can result in serious flu complications such as pneumonia, bacterial infections, and even death. Each year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports thousands of hospitalizations due to influenza complications. High-risk groups include:

- Seniors 65 and older
- Young children
- Pregnant women
- People with chronic health conditions

As a way to raise awareness and to highlight the importance of flu vaccination, the Department of Public Health-Immunizations Program, in collaboration with the Medicaid Waiver program, will offer the Influenza vaccine at no cost to children (6 months-18yr) who qualify under the TVFC guidelines and to uninsured adults 19 years and older who qualify under the Medicaid Waiver guidelines.

The flu vaccine will be available on Wednesday, December 4, at the following locations:

- Ysleta Health Center, 110 Candelaria Rd. 79907
- Henderson Health Center, 721 S. Mesa 79901

For additional information or to make an appointment, call 915-212-6555

There are 414 cases reported so far this season in El Paso, and there were 194 cases of flu reported at this time last season. As of Nov. 15, Texas is reporting 12,241 cases for this flu season, 1000 cases more than last year.

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