



Dickinson-Iron District Health Department

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Respiratory Vaccinations

Crystal Falls and Kingsford, Michigan – September 17, 2025. Getting an influenza (flu) vaccine is an essential part of protecting your health and your family's health. Flu vaccines not only prevent many cases of flu but also decrease the severity of illness for someone who is vaccinated but still develops the flu. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends annual influenza vaccination for everyone 6 months and older, especially for those who are at a high risk of developing complications such as 65 years and older, people with chronic health conditions, and women who are pregnant. Reach out to The Dickinson-Iron District Health Department to make an appointment to get your flu vaccine and look into other vaccines you may be eligible for.

Please contact the office directly at 906-774-1868 (Dickinson County) or 906-265-9913 (Iron County) to make an appointment. There will be weekly in-house clinics at our Kingsford and Crystal Falls locations; morning and evening appointments are available.

Health officials state it is very important to receive the seasonal flu vaccine. Flu is a contagious disease spread by coughing, sneezing, or nasal secretions. Infants, the elderly, pregnant women, and people with certain health conditions – such as heart, lung or kidney disease or a weakened immune system – are at higher risk for complication from the flu virus. Flu can cause high fever and pneumonia and make existing medical conditions worse.

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Each year thousands of people die from seasonal flu and even more require hospitalization. A flu vaccine is a great tool to decrease the chance hospitalization due to flu. Our goal is to increase influenza vaccination, decrease flu related hospitalizations, and spare the local hospital systems from overcrowding or overwhelm. The single best way to protect yourself and your loved ones against the flu is to get vaccinated each year. The DIDHD also encourages new parents, health care professionals, and those who have contact with people aged 65 and older to get vaccinated to help protect these high-risk individuals.

DIDHD offers vaccines for the three viruses responsible for most hospitalizations – COVID-19, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), and Influenza (flu). Vaccines are a core prevention strategy to lower your risk of respiratory viruses and an important step that you can take to protect yourself and others this year.

The 2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccine is available for everyone 6 months of age and older. Getting a booster is important and will give you the best protection from the currently circulating strains.

Adult RSV vaccine is recommended for everyone 50 years and older. RSV protection is also recommended for infants who are especially vulnerable to the disease. This might be by direct vaccination to the infant during key respiratory months or by vaccinating the mother at 32-36 weeks gestation.

Contact your primary care provider or the health department if you are interested in scheduling an appointment for COVID-19 and/or RSV vaccination. We are available to answer any questions regarding respiratory vaccines and your eligibility.

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