

NEWS RELEASE

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MAXIM HEALTH SYSTEMS' FLU VACCINATION PROGRAM TO FOLLOW CDC GUIDELINES

www.FindAFluShot.com TO PROVIDE SHOTS TO HIGH RISK INDIVIDUALS

Columbia, MD, OCTOBER 5, 2004 – Maxim Health Systems today announced its annual flu vaccination program will adhere strictly to guidelines outlined in a public statement this afternoon by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In that statement, the CDC redefined the high risk category to accommodate a sudden shortage of vaccine caused by the loss of all supply from Chiron, announced today. The CDC has now asked those who are not at high risk to forgo their vaccination this year.

“We are extremely concerned that those who need the vaccine most receive it,” commented said Steve Wright, National Director Wellness Services for Maxim Health Systems. “And for this reason, we are asking those going to our clinics to fill out a questionnaire that attests to the fact that they are indeed at high risk.” Wright noted that in previous years, 78 percent of those attending the clinics were high risk individuals.

Additionally, Maxim outlined where and how they will provide flu shots:

- The company will provide clinics at assisted living facilities and senior centers as they have in the past where there are large numbers of people who are high risk. In these sites, people will need to qualify for the high risk status.
- Children *over the age of 9* who are high risk will be provided shots at the clinics.
- Maxim is recommending that children *under the age of 9 who are at high risk*, especially those between the age of 6 and 23 months, see their physicians or their local public health department. This is because the clinics are not geared to treat young children.
- Maxim is canceling all flu clinics at corporations as these sites serve a broader range of individuals, many of whom are not high risk.

“We will continue to run our clinics and immunize as long as there is a supply of vaccine. Yet, because of the shortage, some clinics may need to be canceled. We just don’t know yet,” stated Wright. “Our objective is to work with the CDC to provide the best and most effective service to the community.”

The CDC defines those with an increased risk of developing influenza-related complications as:

- Children age 6 months to 23 months
- Adults 65 years of age or older
- Individuals 2 years to 64 years of age with underlying chronic conditions
- Women who expect to be pregnant during the flu season
- Residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities
- Children 6 months to 18 years of age on chronic aspirin therapy
- Healthcare workers with direct patient care
- Out-of-home caregivers and household contacts of children less than 6 months of age.

Maxim's website, www.FindAFluShot.com, helps users quickly locate nearby vaccination sites based on their local zip code.

About Maxim Health Systems

Maxim Health Systems is a division of Maxim Healthcare Services, Inc. Established in 1996, Maxim Health Systems offers a full line of comprehensive wellness services to corporate and retail clients. We provide a variety of services including immunizations, health screenings and health fairs. In 2003, our flu immunization program alone was responsible for vaccinating more than 1.8 million people. Together with Maxim Healthcare Services, we have branch locations in most metropolitan areas across the nation. For more information contact us at www.FindAFluShot.com

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