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Munarhiliqiyikkut Inuuhiriknirmullu
Department of Health and Social Services
Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux

News Release

H1N1 Mass Immunization Clinics Great Success

IQALUIT, Nunavut (November 18, 2009) – Nunavummiut decided to keep themselves and their families healthy this flu season and came out in droves to be immunized against the H1N1 and seasonal flu viruses – in fact more than 18,724 Nunavummiut were vaccinated during the past 16 days.

Health Canada authorized use of the H1N1 vaccine on October 21 and nine days later Nunavut rolled out its first mass vaccine campaign ever. Five Flu Vaccine Teams, each comprised of three nurses, joined forces with local health centre staff in each hamlet to run the mass vaccination clinics. They traveled simultaneously to regions, visiting all communities to administer the vaccine.

“The mass vaccine clinics were a huge success,” said Hon. Tagak Curley, Minister of Health and Social Services. “There are some communities where as many as 90% of the residents got vaccinated. The weather cooperated and we completed the rounds throughout the territory on schedule.”

The flu teams will be revisiting any communities where the uptake was on the low side.

“Seasonal flu vaccination update last year was 27% throughout Nunavut and the department is very pleased it almost doubled in number this year”, said Minister Curley.

Any Nunavummiut that missed the mass vaccination clinics will still be able to get their H1N1 and seasonal flu vaccines at their local health center, free of charge.

Community Vaccine Clinic success rates are attached.

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Nunavut H1N1 Vaccine Uptake by Community

as of November 16, 2009

Community Name	H1N1 Vaccinations Completed	Population	Percentage of Population
Arctic Bay	651	720	90%
Arviat	1100	2205	50%
Baker Lake	900	1842	49%
Cambridge Bay	1091	1599	68%
Cape Dorset	614	1319	47%
Chesterfield Inlet	190	362	52%
Clyde River	775	873	89%
Coral Harbour	242	833	29%
Gjoa Haven	708	1124	63%
Grise Fiord	106	131	81%
Hall Beach	398	674	59%
Igloolik	884	1617	55%
Iqaluit	4000	6630	53%
Kimmirut	285	430	66%
Kugaaruk	451	716	63%
Kugluktuk	814	1390	59%
Pangnirtung	787	1414	56%
Pond Inlet	640	1398	46%
Qikiqtarjuaq	383	503	76%
Rankin Inlet	1300	2559	51%
Repulse Bay	660	813	81%
Resolute Bay	170	246	69%
Sanikiluaq	600	779	77%
Taloyoak	700	885	79%
Whale Cove	275	375	73%
TOTAL	18724	31437	60%