

Media Release

SA Health

Tuesday 20 October 2009

Swine flu vaccine reminder

SA Health is reminding people that it's not too late to get a swine flu shot.

Chief Medical Officer Professor Paddy Phillips says that despite the warmer weather, swine flu is still in the community.

"In the past week, we've seen twenty more people diagnosed with swine flu, four more people admitted to hospital, and sadly, another death.

A 24 year old woman with underlying medical conditions died with swine flu on 3 October.

The cause of death will be determined by the Coroner. The woman was not being treated in hospital at the time of her death.

This brings the number of fatalities in South Australia associated with the virus to 28.

There have been a total of 9,043 confirmed cases of Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 Influenza in South Australia.

Professor Phillips says its clear people were getting the message and are doing the right thing by themselves and the wider community.

"We have reports that some medical clinics are vaccinating up to fifty people each day and that's good news for our community.

"Anyone 10 years old and older with underlying chronic medical conditions, such as asthma and other lung disease, cancers, heart disease, diabetes, and chronic kidney failure, pregnant women, Aboriginal people and people who are obese should get vaccinated.

"Parents and guardians of children under six months of age should also consider getting the vaccination, as it is the best way to help protect their children from swine flu.

By 16th October 341,220 doses of swine flu had been delivered to more than 1,600 providers across SA.

Free vaccines are now available to all South Australians aged 10 and over to help protect against the H1N1 virus.

Contact your local GP or local council vaccination clinic to make an appointment. A list of participating local councils can be found on www.flu.sa.gov.au

For more information about Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 Influenza contact the Swine Flu Hotline on 180 2007 or visit www.flu.sa.gov.au

For more information

Call the SA Health Media Line
Telephone: 08 8226 6488