



Central Office: 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT 06109 Phone (860) 721-2822 Fax (860) 721-2823  
Berlin: 240 Kensington Road, Berlin, CT 06037 Phone (860) 828-7017 Fax (860) 828-9248  
Newington: 131 Cedar Street, Newington, CT 06111 Phone (860) 665-8586 Fax (860) 665-8533  
Rocky Hill: 761 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 Phone (860) 258-2770 Fax (860) 258-2767  
[www.ccthd.org](http://www.ccthd.org)

Date: June 22, 2009  
To: Local Media  
From: Linda DeJohn Bantell, Health Educator  
Phone (860) 721-2824

Please print the following press release in your newspaper. Thank you.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**New Guidelines for Pneumococcal Vaccinations**

The Central Connecticut Health District is advising residents to discuss whether or not they need a pneumonia vaccination with their physician. In response to the outbreak of the novel H1N1 influenza outbreak, the Centers for Disease Control have issued new interim recommendations for the pneumonia shot.

According to the new guidelines, the following people should be vaccinated against pneumonia:

- All adults aged 65 and older.
- Anyone aged 2 – 64 with the following:
  - Diabetes
  - Chronic pulmonary disease (including COPD and emphysema)
  - Alcoholism
  - Chronic liver disease, including cirrhosis
  - Cerebrospinal fluid leaks
  - People with no spleen or sickle cell disease
  - People with compromised immune systems due to conditions such as HIV infection, AIDS, leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease, malignancies, chronic renal failure, or multiple myeloma.
  - Anyone receiving chemotherapy (including corticosteroids) or who has received an organ or bone marrow transplant
- Anyone aged 19 – 64 who smokes or has asthma.

A second shot should be given at least five years after the initial vaccination to people who were under 65 when they were first vaccinated as well as to people considered to be at high risk. At this time, it is not recommended to give the pneumonia shot to those who do not fall into one of the high risk groups.

For further information about pneumonia vaccination or the novel H1N1 influenza, visit the web site for the Centers for Disease Control at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) or the Central Connecticut Health District at [www.ccthd.org](http://www.ccthd.org) (860-721-2822).