



McHenry County Department of Health

2200 N. Seminary Avenue, Annex A

Woodstock IL 60098

Phone 815-334-4510 Fax 815-334-4635

www.mcdh.info

www.twitter.com/mchenrycohealth

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Debra Quackenbush

815-334-4456; cell 815-236-3238

Pneumonia vaccine available

WOODSTOCK IL – Residents 65 and older who have never received the pneumonia vaccine are reminded that appointments are available from McHenry County Department of Health (MCDH), 2200 N Seminary Avenue, in Woodstock. To those with Medicare Part B or Medicaid, the vaccine is free; for others, the cost is \$35.00. Most people only need one vaccination. Eligibility also includes those aged 19-64 who have never received the vaccine, have a chronic illness such as asthma or who smoke. The vaccine is not recommended for pregnant women and people with Guilliam Barre Syndrome. Adults should consult with a physician prior to receiving the pneumonia vaccine.

Pneumococcal pneumonia is a serious illness, accounting for 10%-25% annually for all pneumonias. Anyone can get pneumococcal disease; however, older adults (over 65 years of age) are considered high risk. Mild side effects following vaccination include redness and pain at the injection site.

Appointments are limited. The Medicare card must be presented at the time of vaccination. Call MCDH at 815-334-4931 to schedule an appointment. Visit the Illinois Department of Public Health (www.idph.state.il.us/public/hb/hbpneumo.htm) to learn more about pneumococcal disease.

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“Working to prevent disease and promote health and safety for all people of McHenry County since 1966.”