

THE LOCAL CHOICE E-NEWS

Department of Human Resource Management

State and Local Health Benefits Programs

September 2009

TLC Flu Shot Program Begins for Flu Season

Free flu vaccine once again is available from now until the end of flu season at specific participating TLC Key Advantage and TLC HDHP plan chain and independent retail pharmacies. In addition, individual groups may make arrangements to have a local pharmacy that participates with the TLC plans come onsite to provide flu vaccine at no cost. There is no information available yet on H1N1 vaccine. We will provide details as developments occur.

Pharmacy Program: Any covered plan member, including employees, non-Medicare eligible retiree group members, covered spouses and dependents, may present a plan ID card to receive the flu vaccine at no cost. The TLC Key Advantage and TLC HDHP pharmacy lists are available on the TLC Web site at www.thelocalchoice.virginia.gov. Most, if not all, of the participating pharmacies will be fully on board by Friday, September 18. Note the tabs with names of chains and independents. We will update the lists as changes occur. A flu shot flyer and a Q&A for each plan are also posted on the Web site.

- **For Key Advantage:** Pharmacy chains and independents this year include CVS, Giant, Kroger, Rite Aid, Safeway, SuperValu, Ukrop's, Walgreens and independent pharmacies in Leadernet, among others.
- **For TLC HDHP:** CVS, Farm Fresh, Medicine Shoppe, Ukrop's and Walgreens, among others.

Plan members should also check with their local pharmacy to be sure it is participating in the program. The corporate offices of participating pharmacy chains will communicate to their store locations according to their specific corporate communications guidelines. Each pharmacy location sets up its own clinics and procedures, which may differ within the pharmacy chain. Note that retail health clinics, such as MinuteClinic, are not participating providers under the TLC plans. Flu shots received from these clinics will not be covered.

TLC Group Arrangements: Groups that wish to bring a pharmacy onsite to administer flu vaccine must follow the attached guidelines.

Flu Shots under the Medical Benefit: All Key Advantage and TLC HDHP members may receive flu vaccine at no cost in their doctor's office covered under the medical routine wellness benefit. Kaiser Permanente HMO plan members have access to free flu vaccine from their physician or at participating medical centers.