



## News Release

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Contact:  
Pamela Davenport, PIO  
(801) 468-2757  
(801) 209-0986

### **Health department reduces flu shots to \$5** *Officials say cases are increasing, season hasn't peaked yet*

(Salt Lake County) – It's *really* not too late to be vaccinated against the flu. In fact, it probably would be a very good idea right now. That's what officials at the Salt Lake Valley Health Department (SLVHD) are saying, and they're dropping the cost of flu shots to \$5.00.

"Salt Lake County, Utah and the rest of the nation are continuing to see an increase in flu cases, which means we have not yet peaked for this season," explains Andrea Price, epidemiologist at SLVHD. "Last season Salt Lake County reached its peak in the last two weeks of February."

In addition to a possibly later peak for the season, the CDC yesterday announced that 17 pediatric deaths have been reported so far across the country - nine of which were reported in a one week period between February 14 and February 21 (one of which was from Salt Lake County). The CDC also reported that almost 100% of the influenza A (H1N1) strain is now resistant to the anti-viral drug, Tamiflu - up from 12 percent during last year's flu season.

"Given all of these things, increasing cases, increasing pediatric deaths, and an increasing resistance to Tamiflu," says Sharon Moon, SLVHD immunizations coordinator. "It really is not too late to protect yourself and your family; especially for just five dollars!"

The \$5 influenza vaccine is available on a first-come, first-served basis at the following SLVHD Health Clinics. Walk-ins are welcome.

South East Public Health Center  
9340 South 700 East  
Sandy, UT 84070  
(801) 255-7114

Salt Lake City Public Health Center  
610 South 200 East  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
(801) 534-4666

South Main Public Health Center  
3690 South Main Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84115  
468- 3690

Ellis Shipp Clinic  
4535 South 5600 West  
West Valley City, UT 84120  
(801) 963-7335

For additional information on the availability of vaccine and vaccination guidelines, call (801) 534-4693 or visit [www.slvhealth.org](http://www.slvhealth.org).

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