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NEWS

SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES
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ADULT VACCINATION CLINIC

(Sedgwick County, Kan.) – The Sedgwick County Health Department’s disease surveillance professionals say indicators show the Sedgwick County area may have reached the peak for influenza (flu) and pertussis (whooping cough), but numbers are still higher than usual for these vaccine-preventable diseases.

In addition to proper hygiene and other behaviors that limit the spread of germs, getting vaccinated is one of the best ways to prevent disease. Vaccines help protect not only the recipient, but others who may come into contact with that person.

“We’re not out of the woods yet with the flu or pertussis, and we don’t want instances of these diseases to climb again. Getting vaccinated is important to limiting the further spread of these and other diseases,” said Sedgwick County Health Department Director Claudia Blackburn.

School-age children and adults older than age 60 are among the most vaccinated populations; however, adults younger than age 60 are among the least vaccinated. In an effort to help stop the spread of vaccine-preventable diseases, the health department will offer a special vaccination clinic for parents of school-age children.

“The goal is whole-family protection from disease,” said Blackburn.

Influenza and Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) vaccines will be available to adults during normal business hours – noon to 6:30 p.m. – Thursday, February 7 at the health department’s main clinic, 2716 W. Central in Wichita. Most insurance is

accepted and vaccine is free for those who are uninsured. Vaccines will be available while supplies last.

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