



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Greene County

ACCREDITATION DOCUMENT COVER PAGE

<u>Measure #</u>	<u>Required Document #</u>	<u>Example #</u>	<u>Document Date:</u>
3.1.1	1	2	2/13/17
Document Page #	Required Element		
1	Dated press release providing flu health risk information (paragraph 1) including accurate, accessible and actionable items (paragraph 2-3) to prevent disease spread through health behaviors (paragraph 4).		

Document Description:

This press release was shared on February 13, 2017 and demonstrates the provision of information to the public for the purpose of addressing the health risks of the flu (communicable disease program area). The target group or audience includes the age group who can receive the flu vaccine (all children aged 6 months through 18 years and adults). Provided is accurate and actionable information about the flu and how the public can prevent the spread of disease.



Greene County Public Health

Melissa Branum, MS, MBA, MPH, RN, RS, Health Commissioner

Robert P. Dillaplain, MD, Medical Director

Press Release

For Immediate Release

February 13, 2017

Contact: Laurie Fox, Public Information Officer

937-374-5669/866-858-3588; lfox@gcph.info

Flu Hospitalizations Continue to Increase

XENIA, OH—Flu related hospitalizations are continuing to increase in Ohio and in Greene County. According to the Ohio Department of Health, Ohio has seen its third pediatric death in two weeks. In Greene County, the week of February 6-10 had a higher number of flu related hospitalizations than usual in the past 5 years. Seasonal flu in Greene County typically occurs December through March, but has started as early as October and lasted through May. Greene County Public Health would like to remind families that flu season is here and that all children, ages 6 months through 18 years, and adults, should get a seasonal flu vaccine.

The flu is a contagious respiratory disease caused by a virus infecting the nose, throat, and lungs, and can lead to serious complications such as pneumonia or bronchitis, hospitalization, or even death. The flu comes on suddenly and symptoms may include fever, headache, tiredness, cough, sore throat, nasal congestion, and body aches. Illness typically lasts two to seven days, possibly longer.

Getting a flu vaccine is the best way to protect yourself and your family from this serious disease. Vaccines are developed each year to protect against the flu viruses that research indicates will be most common. In addition, vaccination immunity declines after a year. This is why everyone needs a flu vaccine every season. Flu viruses are constantly changing, and different viruses can circulate causing illness each season. This year, the predominant strain is H3N2 (Influenza A), and for those who have never been exposed to this strain, the symptoms may become severe enough to require hospitalization. In children, symptoms may progress from cough and congestion, to fever, and bacterial pneumonia. If you become sick with the flu, seek treatment early, as there are antiviral medications that may limit the severity and length of your illness.

Flu vaccine is now available at the offices of Greene County Public Health in Xenia. Please call 937-374-5600 for an appointment. Health Commissioner Melissa Branum reminds everyone to maintain good health by washing hands regularly, covering coughs and sneezes, eating a balanced diet, getting plenty of rest, and staying home when you are ill.

For more information, log on to www.gcph.info or www.flu.gov.

-cont'd-

360 Wilson Drive • Xenia, Ohio 45385
(937) 374-5600 • toll free (866) 858-3588 • Fax (937) 374-5675
www.gcph.info



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Greene County Public Health

Melissa Branum, MS, MBA, MPH, RN, RS, Health Commissioner

Robert P. Dillaplain, MD, Medical Director

About Greene County Public Health:

Our services are designed to protect and improve the health of the community. We provide convenient, affordable direct care services to children and pregnant women, dental care, WIC, special services to families with medical and developmental needs, school inspections, general operations, nuisance abatement, rabies, and other environmental health investigations. We ensure food and water are safe, protection from disease, and readiness to respond to emergencies. The organization was created by Ohio Revised Code 3707 and 3709 in 1920. Our mission is to prevent disease, protect our environment, and promote healthy communities and wellness in Greene County.

Greene County Public Health...
Your Trusted Local Public Health Authority Since 1920

###

360 Wilson Drive • Xenia, Ohio 45385
(937) 374-5600 • toll free (866) 858-3588 • Fax (937) 374-5675
www.gcph.info