



**Department of Veterans Affairs North Texas Health Care System
News Release**

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VA ENCOURAGES VETERANS TO GET THEIR FLU SHOT

DALLAS --- Flu season brings an increased opportunity of illness for many individuals, and more than 200,000 people in the United States are hospitalized every year from flu complications. High risk groups, including the elderly, young children, and people with certain health conditions, should receive a flu vaccination each year.

“We began providing flu shots early this year,” said Joe Dalpiaz, director of VA North Texas Health Care System. “Preventive measures that will hopefully reduce the need for a hospital visit or stay for our veterans,” he said.

Flu shots began October 6 for inpatients, and October 1 for those with clinic appointments, walk-ins, as well as employees. VA North Texas will also conduct its 14th annual “Drive Thru Flu Clinic” on October 25, and November 15, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. All veterans who have received an honorable discharge from the military are eligible – just bring your patient identification card, discharge certificate or DD214.

- Dallas VA Medical Center: 4500 South Lancaster Road, Dallas – south entrance of the Clinical Addition
- Fort Worth Outpatient Clinic: 300 W. Rosedale, Fort Worth - under the canopy of the ambulance entrance; and
- Sam Rayburn Memorial Veterans Center: 1201 E. Ninth, Bonham - front of Building 1 under the canopy.

It is important to be re-vaccinated each year because the flu viruses change each year. “An advantage for us is that we received an ample flu vaccine supply early in the season. Over 14,000 veterans have already received their shot, and we are encouraging everyone to follow their example,” Dalpiaz said.

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