



# COMAL COUNTY

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## PUBLIC INFORMATION

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### **Flu shots available for National Influenza Vaccination Week**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, DECEMBER 2, 2019:**

*NEW BRAUNFELS* — This week is National Influenza Vaccination Week, and the Comal County Office of Public Health reminds residents that flu shots are still available.

Cases of influenza have been increasing lately, with more than 70 confirmed cases the week ending Nov. 23, up from 41 the previous week and 19 the week before that.

“There’s still time to get your vaccine and protect yourself and your family from the flu this winter,” said Director of Public Health Cheryl Fraser. “It takes about two weeks after receiving it for the vaccine to be fully effective, so the sooner you get your flu shot, the better.”

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that everyone over 6 months old receive a flu shot from a licensed medical professional. The CDC established National Influenza Vaccination Week in 2005 to raise awareness about the importance of flu vaccination, even after the end of November.

The peak of the past two flu seasons have occurred after Jan. 1, with the 2018-19 season peaking in February, when flu cases neared 400 per week from Feb. 10 through March 2.

The Office of Public Health accepts Medicaid and Community First CHIP for children age 18 and younger, and Blue Cross Blue Shield for all ages. The cost of a shot for someone without insurance coverage is just \$35.

Residents can call 830-221-1150 to make an appointment, but walk-ins are welcome. The office is open from 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m. at 1297 Church Hill Drive, New Braunfels.

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