



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**News Release**

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GOVERNOR

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**PUBLIC FLU SHOT CLINICS FOR THE CHRONICALLY ILL**

HONOLULU – The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) will hold public flu shot clinics statewide for the chronically ill. HMSA has donated its flu vaccine originally intended for its own clinics. In total, the DOH and HMSA have almost 10,000 flu shots that will be made available for the chronically ill. Clinics will be held beginning November 15 and run through mid- December.

“Our Administration’s highest priority this year is to protect the most vulnerable, including the frail and elderly who are in long-term care facilities, as well as chronically ill elderly, adults and children. We appreciate the assistance of HMSA and physicians statewide in helping to protect those most at risk from the flu this year,” said Health Director Chiyome Fukino, M.D.

Hawaii residents of any age who have a chronic illness and who have been unable to get a flu shot should contact their doctor. Physicians have been notified regarding the details of how the clinics will operate. Physicians will refer their chronically ill patients by completing a *Flu Vaccine Order Form 2004-05* and making an appointment. There is no cost to the patient for the flu shot.

For additional information, call your doctor.

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