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None of the Recalled H1N1 Vaccine Was Received Locally

Kingsford, Michigan – December 16, 2009. “None of the doses of vaccine recalled yesterday were received in Dickinson or Iron County”, said Linda Piper, Health Officer at the Dickinson Iron District Health Department. “This means no children immunized at the health department or at local physician offices in our two counties received vaccine from the now recalled lot numbers”.

Sanofi-Aventis recalled 4 lot numbers of its vaccine which was intended for children aged six months to 35 months of age. Each of these batches passed all safety and effectiveness testing at the time it was released. .As part of a strict monitoring process, vaccine manufacturers routinely test batches over time to make sure nothing has changed since manufacturing. On these routine tests, Sanofi found that 4 batches of vaccine had decreased in strength over time and were slightly lower in strength than they were on first testing. There were no safety issues with these batches. .The Centers for Disease Control and the Food and Drug Administration have reviewed all of the information and agree that the very small decrease in strength of the vaccine should not change the effectiveness of the vaccine. The vaccine is being recalled because even though the decrease is slight, it no longer meets the specifications. There is no need to re-administer a dose to those who received this vaccine.

All children under 10 years of age need two doses of H1N1 vaccine for good immunity. The recommended booster dose should be given 4 weeks after the first dose.