



# Park Nicollet

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## MEDIA ADVISORY RE INFLUENZA VACCINE APPOINTMENTS

**St. Louis Park, Minn. (October 26, 2009)**—Due to an overwhelming volume of phone calls, Park Nicollet has shut down our flu appointment line. The number, 952-993-2121 is no longer active. We ask that all news media remove the number from your web sites and from all archived stories on your web sites.

By 9:30 this morning (October 26, 2009), Park Nicollet had received 60,000 phone calls on this line that we were unable to answer.

Instead, we are asking patients to request an appointment via email at [flushot@parknicollet.com](mailto:flushot@parknicollet.com). We ask that patients send their name and phone number only. We cannot accept additional health details or other information. We are scheduling appointments **only** for pregnant women, people 6 months through 4 years old, and people 5 through 18 years old with chronic conditions or weakened immune systems.

Our staff will call patients back to schedule a vaccine administration. This may take several days due to the large volume of emails we are receiving.

If patients are **not** in this group, we ask that they do not send an email but check [parknicollet.com](http://parknicollet.com) for up to date information about vaccine availability. Once more vaccine is available, it will be administered in the following order:

People who live with or care for infants 6 months of age or younger

All people 5 through 24 years old

People 25 through 64 years old with chronic conditions or weakened immune systems

Healthy people 25 through 64 years old

Everyone else

Eventually, health officials expect that there will be enough H1N1 vaccine – and seasonal vaccine – available for anyone who wants to be vaccinated.