

164 doses of recalled swine flu vaccine administered in Lee County

BY DENNIS CULVER • DCULVER@NEWS-PRESS.COM • DECEMBER 15, 2009

4:26 P.M. — Lee County's health department administered 164 doses of swine flu vaccine now being recalled. Lee County Health Department Public Information Officer Jennifer James-Mesloh said the health department will return 236 doses that were part of Tuesday's recall announced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

James-Mesloh stressed that people who received the vaccination do not have to worry about getting the virus, even if they received a dose from the recalled lot.

She said the vaccines are still safe and effective.

"Parents need to be aware their children will not be negatively impacted," James-Mesloh said.

Sanofi Aventis is voluntarily recalling 800,000 doses of pediatric swine flu vaccine — for ages 6 months to 35 months — in prefilled syringes because routine tests disclosed that its potency has diminished.

The CDC noted that the vaccine was fine when it was shipped, but its potency apparently faded during a month of storage.

Injectable vaccine is licensed to be stable for 18 months, while the nasal spray should last for 18 weeks.

People concerned about receiving a recalled vaccination can check the Influenza Vaccination Record card they received during the vaccination.

The lot number of the vaccination will be on that card. The recalled doses Lee County received were part of lot No. UT030CA.