

Welcome to
Better Health

A Weekly Update
for Asante Employees

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every day, every time.

ASANTE® News

ASANTE ASHLAND COMMUNITY HOSPITAL | ASANTE PHYSICIAN PARTNERS | ASANTE ROGUE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER | ASANTE THREE RIVERS MEDICAL CENTER

Asante Rogue Regional Zeros in on Flu Shot Target

Employees at Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center drew within a couple percentage points – and about 40 individual flu shots – of the facility’s annual influenza vaccination goal in the most recent weekly report from Asante Employee Health.



About 40 employees were vaccinated in the most recent week – more than double the number of new vaccinations registered during the previous week. About nine and a half weeks remain in this year’s Asante-wide flu shot campaign.

The latest weekly report shows that 1,811 of Asante Rogue Regional’s 2,442 employees – 74.16 percent – have received their flu shots. The hospital’s target is 76 percent.

Asante’s four other entities – Asante Physician Partners, Asante Three Rivers, Asante Ashland and Asante corporate – all have met or surpassed their flu shot goals, the Employee Health report shows.

All full-time employees in Asante entities that meet or exceed their flu shot targets will receive \$100 bonuses under this year’s PEAK Awards program.

Health officials in Oregon and around the country have advised hospitals to let their employees know that flu shots are the best bet for avoiding infection. The protection extends to patients, some of whom are considered especially vulnerable to the potentially life-threatening virus.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control said the influenza-related hospitalization rate for people who are 65 or older rose to 242.2 per 100,000 in the most recent week – the highest rate recorded for any age group since such records began nine years ago. The federal agency is now warning that because this flu season began relatively early, it could last longer than usual.

The CDC [continues to recommend flu shots](#) for everyone 6 months of age and older as the “first and most important step” in avoiding influenza. Studies indicate that annual vaccination reduces mortality from the flu by 41 percent.

Flu season usually peaks in the U.S. between December and February, but outbreaks can continue as late as May.

At Asante, free vaccinations are available to all employees at the Employee Health Departments of all three hospitals. This winter’s Asante flu shot campaign continues through April 30.

Asante News is published every Monday. Deadline for submission of articles is every Thursday. Send via e-mail to asantenews@asante.org.

Question or suggestions: Call Communications and Marketing at (541) 789-3510 or extension 13510.