Ted Arnott, MPP for Wellington-Halton Hills. received his flu shot at the Acton Rexall Pharma Plus on Friday afternoon from pharmacist Dina

> Photo by Eamonn Maher

MPP takes shot in the arm against the flu

By Eamonn Maher emaher@theifp.ca

Another shipment of the influenza vaccine arrived at the Rexall Pharma Plus in Acton this past week and the pharmacists on site have already administered more than 200 flu shots.

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott dropped by the store to get his flu shot and noted that it was his longtime colleague, retired Kitchener-Waterloo MPP Elizabeth Witmer, who initially made the precedent-setting move to offer free flu shots in Ontario in 2000.

As Health Minister at the time, Witmer introduced the free flu shot in part to ease crowding in emergency rooms and to decrease the number of cases of the potentially fatal virus.

Three years ago, pharmacists throughout the province were able to obtain licences to administer flu shots. Rexall is offering vaccination free of charge at any store, at any time, with no appointment necessary.

"Rexall is committed to improving the health and well-being of our patients and the communities we serve, and getting a flu shot is the most effective way to stay healthy this flu season," said pharmacist Dina Riad.

"We know that easier access to vaccinations at pharmacies, including evenings and weekends, will have a significant impact on the health and well-being of the residents of Wellington-Halton Hills in the coming flu season."

For more tips to avoid the flu.

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