

Holt Co. Health Dept. Seeks Standing Orders from New Physician

(KTNC) - The Holt County Health Department is working to secure standing orders from a physician, so the office can continue to provide vaccinations.

Missouri state law requires local health departments to have standing orders from a physician in order to provide services such as flu shots and early childhood vaccines.

Dr. Gillette, with Community Hospital in Fairfax, has been providing those orders recently, but she is moving to another position and won't be able to provide those orders.

County Clerk Kathy Kunkel says it's something that's been an ongoing issue in Holt County and other rural counties in Missouri, where it's often difficult to maintain a doctor's presence.

Kunkel says Holt County is covered through October 16, and Health Department Administrator Brenda Nelson is working to secure new doctor's orders to allow them to continue providing flu and other vaccinations.

Kunkel says they may get temporary standing orders and they don't anticipate a disruption in services, as she says it's more of an administrative tangle to get the matter resolved.