

WINK News - Southwest Florida

Did a student get the H1N1 shot at school without her parents' permission?

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PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. - A father tells WINK he did not want his four-year-old to get the H1N1 shot at school - but his wishes were ignored.

That father is now furious and is looking to the Charlotte County School District for answers.

Daniel Acosta said he threw away the paperwork his daughter brought home asking permission to get the H1N1 vaccine.

"It's not something we do, Acosta said. "Our family never has the shot, so we were not interested in her having it."

He said when he picked up his 4-year-old from Baker Center days later, it looked like his decision was overruled.

"She told me that she had gotten the shot, he said. "I knew that neither me or her mom had authorized that the shot be given to her so I was pretty surprised, and when she rolled up her sleeve she showed me the band-aid, and when I removed it - I saw the swelling and the redness."

Mother Yelena Acosta said, "I was surprised that they would do something without the parents consent and I'm wondering how many other children they've done that to."

Adam DuBois with the Charlotte County Health Department said there is no way a child could have gotten the shot without a signed consent form.

"I'm not really sure how that could happen," DuBois said. "If a child was to show up at a clinic without a consent form, they would immediately be escorted back to the classroom by a school nurse."

The health department showed us the entire process. According to the chart, the consent form is checked three different times... but the student's mother thinks some paperwork got mixed up.

"They're trying to cover their tracks because they made the mistake," Acosta said.

The school district referred all questions to the health department.

The health department said it holds a de-briefing after every vaccination clinic, and this specific issue was never brought up.