

Sonoma County Public Health

H1N1 Flu (Swine Flu) Update

(Update 4 - Released 2009 May 7)

Sonoma County Activity as Reported by Public Health

Number of Confirmed Cases:----- 1

Number of Probable Cases:----- 1

School Dismissals: No dismissals planned.

Public Gatherings: No restrictions at this time. *People who are sick should stay home.* Persons with underlying health conditions who are at high risk for complications of influenza may wish to consider avoiding large gatherings.

Return to work/school guidelines: Individuals with influenza-like illness (fever > 100° with a cough or sore throat) should stay home and not attend work or go into the community except to seek medical care for at least 7 days, even if symptoms resolve sooner.

Public Health Surge Center: The Surge Center is closing today. Public Health's disease control and surveillance function will actively continue to track existing cases and any new or probable cases. Health Alert #4 will be sent out to health care providers today with updated testing guidance. Sonoma County Public Health continues to closely track the H1N1 situation in coordination with state and federal agencies.

National Activity as Reported by the CDC

The ongoing outbreak of novel influenza H1N1 continues to expand in the United States. CDC expects that more cases, more hospitalizations, and more deaths from this outbreak will occur over the coming days and weeks.

CDC continues to take aggressive action to respond to the expanding outbreak. CDC's response goals are to (1) reduce spread and illness severity and (2) provide information to help health care providers, public health officials, and the public address the challenges posed by this emergency.

CDC is issuing updated [interim guidance](#) daily in response to the rapidly evolving situation.

School Guidance. On May 5th CDC issued updated interim guidance for schools and childcare facilities on preventing the spread of novel influenza A (H1N1) virus. At this time, CDC recommends the primary means to reduce spread of influenza in schools focus on early identification of ill students and staff, staying home when sick, and good cough etiquette and frequent hand washing. Decisions about school closure should be at the discretion of local authorities based on local considerations. (See the [School Guidance](#).)

Increased Testing. CDC has developed a PCR diagnostic test kit to detect this novel H1N1 virus and has now distributed test kits to all states in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. This allows states and other countries to test for this new virus. This increase in testing capacity is likely to result in an increase in the number of reported confirmed cases in this country, which should provide a more accurate picture of the burden of disease in the United States. CDC has also provided revised testing guidance for health care providers, focusing many on high-risk groups.

US Human Cases of H1N1 Flu

States	Lab-Confirmed Cases	Deaths
Illinois	204	
New York	98	
California	106	
Texas	91	2
Arizona	48	
Massachusetts	71	
Delaware	38	
All Others	240	
Total (41 states)	896	2

The CDC reports 896 lab-confirmed cases of the H1N1 flu in 41 states, including 106 lab-confirmed cases of H1N1 flu in California. There have been 52 hospitalizations in California. The median age of California cases is 18. Sonoma County Public Health Lab has performed 318 tests, resulting in one positive test for H1N1 flu. Sonoma County has an additional "probable" case awaiting confirmation from the state lab.

Links and Phone Numbers for Further Information

Public Health Phone - Recorded answers to FAQs in English/Spanish: ----- 565.4477

State Hotline - Recorded answers to FAQs in many languages:----- 888.865.0564

Sonoma County Public Health Web Site: ----- www.sonoma-county.org/publichealth

CDC Web Site:----- www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/

California Department of Public Health ----- www.cdph.ca.gov

Remember! Cover your cough; wash your hands thoroughly and often.