

Epi Monthly Report

Brief Review on the H1N1 Influenza in the US, 2009

H1N1 influenza (swine flu)

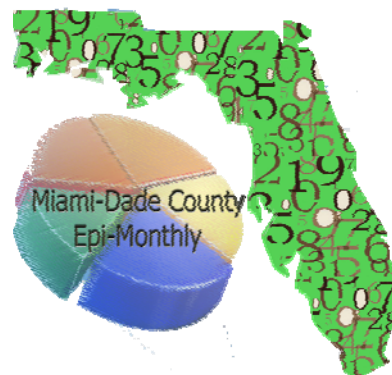
H1N1 (referred to as “swine flu” early on) is a new influenza virus causing illness in people. This new virus was first detected in people in April 2009 in the United States. Other countries, including Mexico and Canada, have reported people sick with this new virus. This virus is spreading from person-to-person, probably in much the same way that regular seasonal influenza viruses spread. As of May 4, 2009, there have been a total of 286 human cases of H1N1 flu infection in 36 states in the US.

This virus was originally referred to as “swine flu” because laboratory testing showed that many of the genes in this new virus were very similar to influenza viruses that normally occur in pigs in North America. But further study has shown that this new virus is very different from what normally circulates in North American pigs. It has

two genes from flu viruses that normally circulate in pigs in Europe and Asia and avian genes and human genes. Scientists call this a “quadruple reassortant” virus.

At this time, there is no evidence that swine in the United States are infected with this new virus. However, there are flu viruses that commonly cause outbreaks of illness in pigs. Most of the time, these viruses do not infect people, but influenza viruses can spread back and forth between pigs and people.

There is no vaccine available right now to protect against H1N1 flu. However, CDC recommends the use of tamiflu (oseltamivir) or relenza (zanamivir) for the treatment and/or prevention of infection with these influenza viruses. For treatment, antiviral drugs work best if started soon after getting sick (within 2 days of symptoms).



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The symptoms of this new influenza A H1N1 virus in people are similar to the symptoms of regular human flu and include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. A significant number of people who have been infected with this virus also have reported diarrhea and vomiting. Also, like seasonal flu, severe illnesses and death has occurred as a result of illness associated with this virus.

Spread of this H1N1 virus is thought to be happening in the same way that seasonal flu spreads. Flu viruses are spread mainly from person to person through coughing or sneezing by people with influenza. Sometimes people may become infected by touching something with flu viruses on it and then touching their mouth or nose.

Currently, the state of Florida has 5 confirmed human cases of H1N1 flu infection; (2) Lee County, (1) Orange County, (1) Broward County and (1) Pinellas County. CDC and local and state health agencies are working collaboratively to investigate and monitor this outbreak. The Florida Department of Health continues its enhanced surveillance with a network of Sentinel Physician Providers. These providers send selected samples of laboratory specimens to state laboratories for testing if they have patients with influenza like illness (ILI). These physicians also continue to report weekly ILI cases to the Department of Health.

There are 3 suspected human cases of H1N1 flu infection in Miami Dade County. The Miami Dade County Health Department continues to conduct enhanced surveillance and outreach to physicians, hospitals and other health care professionals. The sur-

veillance system consists of: sentinel physicians reporting influenza activity; physicians sending specimens to DOH laboratories; monitoring cases in hospital emergency departments; and surveillance of over-the-counter drug sales.

There are everyday actions that can help prevent the spread of germs that cause respiratory illnesses like influenza. Take these everyday steps to protect your health:

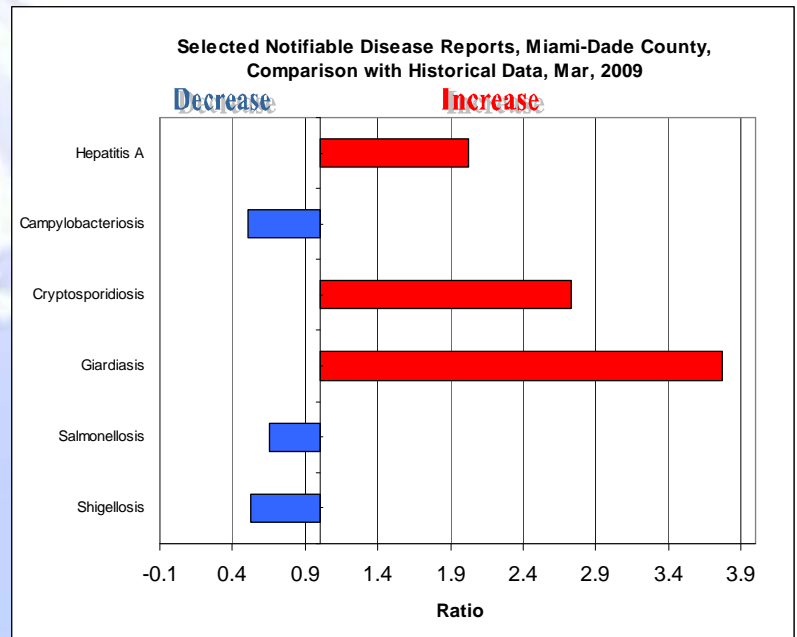
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you get sick with influenza, CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

H1N1 Influenza Image



2009 April is...

- Alcohol Awareness Month
- Autism Awareness Month
- Cancer Control Month
- Cesarean Awareness Month
- Child Abuse Prevention Month
- Counseling Awareness Month
- Occupational Therapy Month
- NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- STD Awareness Month
- Women's Eye Health and Safety Month



Earth Day 2009

Earth Day is celebrated in many countries including the US each year on April 22. It's a day designed to inspire awareness in preserving all geographical integrities and appreciate the earth's environment.

Earth Day and every day is a time to act to protect our planet.

Let's:



Save energy



Use less water



Reduce/reuse/recycle



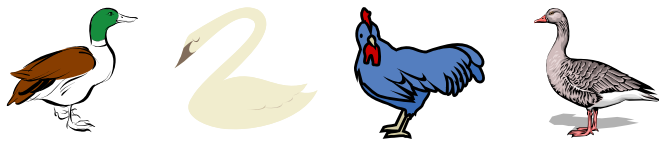
Handle toxics properly

**TO REPORT ANY DISEASE AND FOR INFORMATION CALL:
Epidemiology, Disease Control
& Immunization Services**

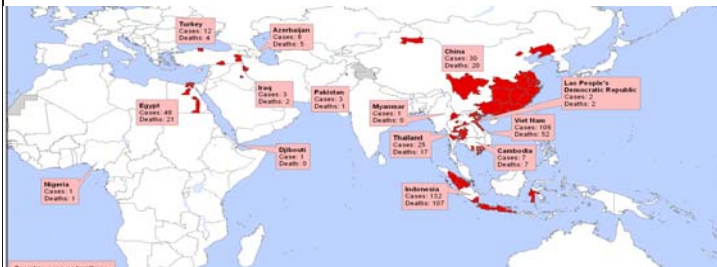
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program305-470-6877
Hepatitis305-470-5536
Immunizations or outbreaks305-470-5660
HIV/AIDS Program305-470-6999
STD Program305-325-3242
Tuberculosis Program305-324-2470
Immunization Service305-470-5660
To make an appointment.....786-845-0550

AVIAN FLU WATCH

Unless indicated, information is current as of
April 23, 2009



- Since 2003, there have been 421 human cases of avian influenza (H5N1) confirmed by the World Health Organization (WHO). Of these, 257 cases have died. This means there is a 61% (257/421) fatality rate.
- **15 Countries with confirmed human cases** include Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Djibouti, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Iraq, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Turkey, Nigeria, Pakistan, Myanmar, and Lao People's Democratic Republic.
- **No human cases of avian influenza (H5N1) have**



been reported in the United States.

- **H5N1 has been confirmed in birds in several other countries since 2003.** H5N1 has been documented in birds in more than 30 countries in Europe & Eurasia, South Asia, Africa, East Asia and the Pacific, and the Near East. For a list of these countries, visit the World Organization for Animal Health Web Site at: http://www.oie.int/download/AVIAN%20INFLUENZA/A_AI-Asia.htm.
 - **No restrictions on travel to affected countries have been imposed.** Travelers should avoid contact with live poultry and monitor their health for ten days after returning from an affected country.
- SOURCES: WHO, OIE, CDC

PARTICIPATE IN INFLUENZA

SENTINEL
PROVIDER SURVEILLANCE

The Miami-Dade County Health Department NEEDS Influenza Sentinel Providers!!

Sentinel providers are key to the success of the Florida Department of Health's Influenza Surveillance System. Data reported by sentinel providers gives a picture of the influenza virus and ILI activity in the U.S. and Florida which can be used to guide prevention and control activities, vaccine strain selection, and patient care.

- Providers of any specialty, in any type of practice, are eligible to be sentinel providers.
- Most providers report that it takes **less than 30 minutes a week** to compile and report data on the total number of patients seen and the number of patients seen with influenza-like illness.
- Sentinel providers can submit specimens from a subset of patients to the state laboratory for virus isolation **free of charge**.

For more information, please contact
Erin O'Connell at 305-470-5660.

About the Epi Monthly Report

The Epi Monthly Report is a publication of the Miami-Dade County Health Department, Epidemiology, Disease Control & Immunization Services. The publication serves a primary audience of physicians, nurses, and public health professionals. Articles published in the Epi Monthly Report may focus on quantitative research and analysis, program updates, field investigations, or provider education. For more information or to submit an article, contact Lizbeth Londoño at 305-470-6918.

Monthly Report

Selected Reportable Diseases/Conditions in Miami-Dade County, March 2009

Diseases/Conditions	2009 this Month	2009 Year to Date	2008 Year to Date	2007 Year to Date	2006 Year to Date	2005 Year to Date
AIDS ^{*Provisional}	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Campylobacteriosis	6	25	36	28	29	19
Ciguatera Poisoning	0	3	5	0	0	0
Cryptosporidiosis	4	5	6	7	4	5
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	3	0	0	0
Dengue Fever	0	2	1	1	0	0
<i>E. coli</i> , O157:H7	0	0	2	0	0	0
<i>E. coli</i> , Non-O157	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis (except WNV)	0	0	1	0	0	0
Encephalitis, West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0	0	0
Giardiasis, Acute	84	150	46	33	40	33
Hepatitis A	7	15	10	8	10	15
Hepatitis B	1	2	2	3	4	7
HIV ^{*Provisional}	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Influenza A (H5)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza Isolates	0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza Novel Strain	0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza, Pediatric Death	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lead Poisoning	23	32	36	33	32	23
Legionnaire's Disease	2	3	3	1	0	1
Leptospirosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lyme disease	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malaria	0	5	1	0	3	0
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningitis (except aseptic)	0	0	1	1	1	3
Meningococcal Disease	4	8	1	2	6	3
Mumps	0	0	1	1	0	0
Pertussis	8	10	0	10	3	1
Rubella	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rubella, Congenital	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmonellosis	22	77	63	72	65	66
Shigellosis	8	36	8	30	23	52
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> , Drug Resistant	25	38	27	22	28	3
Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0
Toxoplasmosis	0	0	0	1	0	0
Tuberculosis ^{*Provisional}	N/A	N/A	42	41	61	43
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0	2	2
<i>Vibrio cholera</i> Type O1	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Vibrio cholera</i> Non-O1	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Vibrio</i> , Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Nile Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0



*Data on AIDS are provisional at the county level and are subject to edit checks by state and federal agencies.

** Data on tuberculosis are provisional at the county level.