

H1N1 FACTS

“IT IS NOT GOING AWAY”

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June 26, 2009 CDC H1N1 Press Briefing

- The over 27,000 lab-defined H1N1 cases that have been identified are considered the tip of the iceberg. CDC estimates that 1,000,000 (1 million) cases of H1N1 have occurred in the U.S.
- 6000 new cases were reported in the U.S. in the week prior to the 6/26/09 briefing.
- 3000 persons have been hospitalized with H1N1 in the U.S. and 127 died.
- The new virus is now making up 99% of all the lab tested viruses.
- More than 60,000 cases in 100 countries with 283 deaths have been reported by the World Health Organization.
- 12 states in the U.S. are having widespread H1N1 activity: Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Maine, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah and Virginia.
- Up to 65 of people in some communities have had influenza like illness.
- There are high rates of H1N1 in those under 50.
- The highest rates of H1N1 are in **persons under 25**.
- People over 65 in the U.S. don't appear to be affected in such great numbers, aren't being hospitalized as frequently, but if they do become ill will more likely suffer complications, even death.
- The median age of those hospitalized is 19.
- The median age of those who have died is 37.
- CDC is aware of 34 H1N1 outbreaks at summer camps for children in 16 states.
- Some organizations have elected to delay or cancel summer camps for those considered at high risk from H1N1 influenza.
- **The Southern Hemisphere** is entering it's winter season. Cases of H1N1 are occurring. Public health agencies will be watching closely for the strain to spread and expect it to intensify over the coming weeks.

H1N1 Vaccine

- Five manufacturers are working on the H1N1 strain of vaccine.

- Candidate vaccines will be tested over the summer months.
- CDC says it is too early for decisions by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) about who might be targeted as a priority to get the new vaccine. Discussions are underway on this issue.
- CDC recommends that states and communities move forward with intensifying efforts on planning to administer a vaccine should it be necessary in the fall.
- Specifically, public health is recommending states and communities consider how to vaccinate younger people, pregnant women, and people with underlying health conditions.

Persons with the following underlying health conditions are at high risk for complications from H1N1 influenza and should be very aware of this new virus.

Asthma

Diabetes

Heart Disease

Chronic lung disease

Pregnant women

What would you do if school or daycare closed for an extended time due to H1N1?

- Can adults in your household adjust work schedules to accommodate child care at home?
- Are there relatives who would be available to assist with child care in this circumstance?
- Keep several days supply of food, regular and fever medications and fluids in case you are unable to leave home due to personal or family illness.