

State of Montana DPHHS HAN UPDATE

Distributed via the DPHHS Health Alert Network (HAN) System

Friday, May 29, 2009 12:30 PM

DPHHS Contact Information: Bonnie M. Barnard, MPH, CIC
Epidemiologist / Section Supervisor
MT Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program | 406.444.0274

DPHHS recommends you do forward at your discretion this HAN message on to your local HAN contacts.

New Guidance From The CDC For Your Information

DPHHS Health Alert Hotline 1-800-701-5769
Visit the DPHHS Health Alert Network Website at www.han.mt.gov

=====
=====
=====
The goal of Montana's Health Alert Network is to transmit information to local public health authorities as quickly as possible, and assign a suitable priority to the message that is sensitive to the impact of a health-related event providing information relative to the public health and safety of Montanans. For questions or comments relative to Montana's HAN system you may contact the DPHHS HAN Coordinator, Gerry Wheat at [<mailto:gwheat@mt.gov>](mailto:gwheat@mt.gov)

Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

You have received this message based upon the information contained within our emergency notification data base. If you have a different or additional e-mail or fax address that you would like us to use please notify us as soon as possible by e-mail at hhshan@mt.gov <mailto:hhshan@mt.gov>

=====
=====
From: Health Alert Network (CDC) [<mailto:healthalert@cdc.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 3:48 PM

To: Health Alert Network (CDC)

Subject: CDC HAN Info Service Message May 26, 2009 - New and Updated CDC Guidance Related to Novel H1N1 Flu

This is an official

CDC HAN Info Service Message

Distributed via the HAN Info Service
May 26, 2009, 17:45 ET (5:45 PM ET)
HANINFO-0292-05-26-09-N

New and Updated CDC Guidance Related to Novel H1N1 Flu

Influenza illness, including illness associated with the novel influenza A H1N1 virus is ongoing in the United States. The May 22 *FluView* Report shows that influenza activity is decreasing in the United States; however, levels of influenza-like illness are higher than normal for this time of year. At this time, the majority of influenza viruses isolated in the United States are now novel H1N1 viruses.

It's uncertain at this time how severe this novel H1N1 outbreak will be in terms of how many people infected have severe complications or death related to novel H1N1 infection. While nation-wide influenza-like-illness surveillance is trending downward, localized outbreaks are ongoing and it's likely that such outbreaks will continue over the summer. It's uncertain how the novel H1N1 virus will affect the upcoming 2009-2010 influenza season.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention continues its response to the novel H1N1 Flu outbreak. CDC's goals continue to be to reduce the spread and severity of illness and to provide information to assist health care providers, public health officials, and the public address the challenges posed by this emergency. To this end, CDC continues to develop and update guidance documents and provide other information.

New on the CDC Web Site:

Interim Guidance for Correctional and Detention Facilities on Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus

This interim guidance is specific to correctional facilities to ensure continuation of essential public services and protection of the health and safety of inmates, staff and visitors in the context of a novel influenza A (H1N1) virus outbreak.

Guidelines for the Submission of Tissue Specimens for the Pathologic Evaluation of Influenza Virus Infections

This guidance has been updated to refine the specimen sampling recommendations and to provide more detailed shipping instructions.

Interim Recommendations for Facemask and Respirator Use to Reduce Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus Transmission

This document provides updated interim guidance on the use of facemasks and respirators for decreasing exposure to novel influenza A (H1N1) virus.

FluView Report

The Epidemiology and Prevention Branch in the Influenza Division at CDC collects, compiles and analyzes information on influenza activity year round in the United States and produces a weekly report published each Friday called "*FluView*" at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

Additional documents for health care providers, public health officials and the public are available on www.cdc.gov. Information for the public is posted daily in both English and Spanish. Also, CDC's toll-free hotline, 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636) TTY: (888) 232-6348, is available 24 hours a day, every day.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) protects people's health and safety by preventing and controlling diseases and injuries; enhances health decisions by providing credible information on critical health issues; and promotes healthy living through strong partnerships with local, national and international organizations.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##This Message was distributed to State and Local Health Officers, Public Information Officers, Laboratory Directors, Weapons of Mass Destruction Coordinators, Epidemiologists and HAN Coordinators as well as Association and Clinician organizations##

=====
The HAN Info Service is utilized by the CDC's Health Alert Network to distribute general correspondence from CDC which is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.
=====