



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Cole County
Health Department

H1N1 Update

8/17/2009

Confirmed H1N1 Cases in Cole County

At present there are seven confirmed cases of 2009 H1N1 Influenza in Cole County. The first confirmed was an isolated case involving an adolescent with travel to areas reporting high numbers of H1N1 the second week of June. No other persons around the infant displayed any symptoms. The first cluster of H1N1 confirmed cases occurred the last week of June at a summer camp held outside Cole County. The ages of the three children ranged from 10-11. Finally, the remaining three confirmed cases occurred at the YMCA day camp the second to last week of July. The three children's ages ranged from five to seven. After the initial cases, the camp began taking the temperature of all incoming campers in the morning and sending home those who had temperatures above 100 degrees Fahrenheit. In total, approximately 55 persons were either voluntarily or involuntarily excluded from camp due to fever. The camp is comprised of six different groups, five of which are co-located at the YMCA, although they hold daily activities in different areas. The kindergarteners through the fourth grade were housed at the YMCA and the fifth to sixth grade group was off-campus. The highest amount of illness occurred in the second grade group, which accounted for thirty-one percent of all persons excluded. Despite being at a different location, the fifth to sixth grade campers had eight persons ill, which was likely due to ill campers with older siblings. This data seems to suggest that the virus is most apt at causing illness in school-age children.

H1N1 Vaccine Plan

The Cole County Health Department will be submitting a plan to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services on August 31, 2009 which will detail the methods by which the CCHD will vaccinate the priority groups recommended on June 29, 2009 by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). These priority groups include:

- Pregnant Women;
- Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age;
- Healthcare and emergency services personnel;
- All people from 6 months to 24 years of age; and
- Persons aged 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza.

In the event that the vaccine is limited, the following groups will be the first to receive the vaccine:

- Pregnant Women;
- People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age;
- Health care and emergency services personnel with direct patient contact;
- Children 6 months to 4 years of age; and
- Children 5 to 18 years of age who have chronic medical conditions.

Following the vaccination of the aforementioned priority groups, vaccine will be open to the general public.

CCHD Preparedness Activities

In an effort to be ready for the fall we have been:

- Surveying the health care community for additional vaccination partners and numbers;
- Preparing to get MOU's in place with key vaccinating partners;
- Planning public health clinics;
- Increasing surveillance capabilities for earlier detection of illness in the community;
- Disseminating H1N1 materials, resources, and education to schools, day cares, long term care facilities, businesses, and various other entities;
- Developing a web site link which displays current trends of influenza cases by age group in Cole County; and
- Communicating periodic updates to local physicians on testing guidance and H1N1 updates.