

## **Situation Report on 2009 H1N1 Flu Outbreak**

May 3, 2009

1600 hours

**OVERVIEW** – On Friday April 24<sup>th</sup>, the Division of Public Health learned that a new influenza virus now designated as 2009 H1N1 Flu had infected people in California, Texas, and Mexico. It is now evident that this new virus is spreading from person to person.

- No new information on confirmatory tests for H1N1 flu (swine flu) has been received today from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The confirmed case count for Wisconsin remains three. Two cases are from Milwaukee County and the third case is from Adams County. These were announced previously as probable cases on April 29<sup>th</sup>, but were confirmed by the CDC on May 2, 2009.
- At 1600 hours, April 30, 2009, Governor Jim Doyle declared a public health emergency in Wisconsin in response to the presence of Swine Influenza A (H1N1) in the state. The Governor's declaration designates the Department of Health Services as the lead agency to respond to the public health emergency. It also:
  - Directs DHS to take all necessary and appropriate measures to prevent and respond to incidences of Swine Influenza A in the state.
  - Directs DHS to access and distribute the state and federal antiviral stockpiles in response to the public health emergency as the State Health Officer determines is advisable.
  - Directs DHS, as part of the antiviral response, to take any measure it deems necessary and appropriate to make an antiviral available to persons within the State, regardless of insurance or other health coverage, as needed to respond to the public health emergency.
  - Suspends the provisions of any administrative rule, if DHS determines that compliance with that rule would prevent, hinder, or delay necessary actions to respond to the emergency and increase the health threat.
  - Authorizes the Adjutant General to utilize Wisconsin National Guard Direct personnel and resources as necessary and appropriate to assist in the State's response to the public health emergency.
  - Directs all state agencies of the State of Wisconsin to assist as appropriate in this ongoing response.
- The World Health Organization maintains its pandemic alert at Level 5, its second-highest level. Level 6 indicates a full scale pandemic. Level 5 means all countries should be activating their pandemic preparedness plans.
- CDC today reported 226 laboratory-confirmed cases in the U.S., including cases in 30 states. It is now relatively widespread in the U.S.
- The only swine flu-related death in the U.S. was reported in Texas—a 22-month old child visiting from Mexico. In contrast, there have been many cases of pneumonia and some deaths in Mexico. The reasons for this difference are still under investigation.
- CDC maintains its advisory on travel to Mexico-- recommends postponement of nonessential travel.

### **DPH Incident Command**

- The Division of Public Health activated its Incident Command structure and opened its Emergency Operations Center on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Seth Foldy, State Health Officer, currently serves as Incident Commander.

DPH EOC phone bank (Hours 0800-1900 daily, 0800 –1700 weekends) is operational and responding to questions from clinicians, hospitals, healthcare providers, and citizens.

- “211 Wisconsin” is answering general calls related to swine influenza. 211 has multilingual capability.
- Specific medical professionals already registered with Wisconsin Emergency Assistance Volunteer Registry (WEAVR) Medical Reserve Unit are being contacted for activation and a Medical Reserve Corps unit is on stand-by.  
Those medical professionals not registered on WEAVR who willing to work at informational phone banks are being asked to register with the Wisconsin Emergency Assistance Volunteer Registry (WEAVR) at <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/preparedness/WEAVR/>
- DPH continues its communications outreach activities with all sectors of the community including private industry, educational institutions, schools, childcare and aging and disability resource centers.
- Swine flu informational materials in Spanish and Hmong have been posted on the [www.pandemic.wisconsin.gov](http://www.pandemic.wisconsin.gov). DPH continues work on translating all general public documents on the site.
- Coordinating with DPI on messaging for schools.

### Wisconsin Case Status as of 1510 hrs

- The State Lab now performs a single test to determine which specimens are “probable” cases. These will be sent to CDC for confirmation as “confirmed” cases.
- Testing is now being performed at the Milwaukee Department of Public Health and at a private research lab in Milwaukee. The State Lab has also doubled its testing capacity.
- Additional testing capacity combined with the change from two tests to one means that probable cases will be announced at a faster pace and the state numbers will increase accordingly.
- Reports are still pending from the State Lab, thus the number of tests submitted and completed were not available in time for today’s update.

### Wisconsin probable and confirmed case counts by county (as of May 3, 2009 3:10 PM)

County	Confirmed	Probable	Total
Adams	1	0	1
Jefferson	0	1	1
Kenosha	0	1	1
Milwaukee	2	19	21
Ozaukee	0	1	1
Racine	0	2	2
Rock	0	1	1
Sheboygan	0	2	2
Waukesha	0	5	5
Winnebago	0	1	1
County ID pending	0	33	33
<b>Total (10)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>69</b>

State health officials and local health departments continue to work closely with clinical providers to identify and test suspect cases.

- For more details on cases please visit: <http://pandemic.wisconsin.gov/>

## **DPH Activities**

- DPH and local health departments are continuing their surveillance and investigating suspected cases.
- DPH is working with local health departments, infection control experts and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- DPH has sent out information and guidance on how to properly collect laboratory specimens and how to submit them to the state laboratory. The division has also offered guidance on isolation procedures.
- DPH will conduct on an “as-needed” basis a partner teleconference 3 times weekly to provide updates and answer questions.
- The communications team met with representatives of business and industry to develop a coordinated effort involving the business community.
- Postings of guidance and other informational materials continue via WI Trac, the HAN, and the [pandemic.wisconsin.gov influenza](http://pandemic.wisconsin.gov/influenza) website.
- More personnel from throughout DHS have been added to the Communications Team and many other parts of the Incident Command structure.

## **DPH Regional Office activities**

*Northern Region:* Continuing to manage calls. PHN consultation and resources provided to a tribal clinician regarding request for more PPE, use of reference labs, acquiring media testing kits, procedure for specimen collection.

*North Eastern Region:* In response to survey, 8 LHDs/tribes indicate that they either have access to or have received adequate information on H1N1 flu.

*Southern Region:* Scheduling, training and managing call center personnel. Assisting Madison/Dane County to set up call center. Providing Spanish translation service to the call center.

*South Eastern Region:* LHDs concerned about meeting the needs of the uninsured and undocumented. Emergency Rooms have been calling with questions about where to send people for care when they have no primary care provider. Extremely busy with case investigation and triaging calls.

*Western Region:* Primary concerns related to testing in MN and relay of results to WI, format for approval form, school closures, and weekend coverage.

## **Strategic National Stockpile**

- FDA has issued Emergency Use Authorization for the use of Tamiflu and Relenza
- FDA has revised the PREP Act to cover medical products used for the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus.
- SNS deliveries to Wisconsin are complete.
- CDC has stated there is no shortage of antiviral drugs in the commercial pharmacy supply chain.