

State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Jim Doyle, Governor Karen E. Timberlake, Secretary

H1N1 Situation Report

January 7, 2010 at 12:00 Hours

Overview

Vaccine is widely available throughout the state and now is an optimal time for individuals to get vaccinated. Vaccine is available through private health care providers, local and tribal health departments and pharmacies.

Nationally, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports H1N1 influenza activity continues to decline with the number of states now reporting widespread flu activity down from 7 to 4. CDC notes that flu is unpredictable and activity can rise and fall throughout the season and is likely to continue for months, caused by either H1N1 or regular seasonal flu viruses.

H1N1 activity is low in Wisconsin. However, three additional H1N1 related deaths have been reported in the past week and another wave of H1N1 cases could occur yet this influenza season.

People are encouraged to obtain H1N1 and seasonal vaccinations, follow good hygiene precautions such as hand washing, covering their cough/sneeze with their sleeve or a tissue, and stay home when ill. Call your health care provider first to determine if you should be seen by your local physician or if you should go to the ER/urgent care for treatment.

H1N1 Surveillance

H1N1 activity is low throughout Wisconsin. However, three additional H1N1 related deaths have been reported in the past week and another wave of H1N1 cases could occur yet this influenza season. Now is an optimal time for individuals to get vaccinated.

Since September 1, 2009, there have been 1,229 hospitalizations due to H1N1 virus infection in Wisconsin. There have been three additional H1N1-related deaths reported in Milwaukee (West Allis), Outagamie (Appleton) and Winnebago counties. This brings the H1N1-related death total to 50 statewide since cases began occurring in April 2009.

There have been sporadic seasonal influenza cases identified throughout the state.

H1N1 Vaccine Update

Vaccine is widely available throughout the state. Public health departments, private health care providers and pharmacies are vaccinating members of the general public and those within the CDC target groups. People may call 2-1-1 to find an H1N1 or seasonal influenza vaccine clinic nearest them. A "clinic finder" is also available online at http://pandemic.wisconsin.gov or www.wisconsinfluclinic.info.

At this time, Wisconsin has been allocated 2,505,600 doses.

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