
Press Release

NEWS

Burlington County
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Fourth H1N1 Flu Case in Burlington County Confirmed

Burlington County Health Department today reported a fourth case of human infection with H1N1 (swine influenza A) in the county.

Confirmation of the fourth Burlington County case, a 22-year-old woman, was received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through the NJ Dept. of Health and Senior Services today.

The woman had a connection to the family with the first three confirmed cases reported Thursday but had not travelled to Mexico like the others and is recovering. None of the patients were hospitalized.

“We are working closely with our public health partners to ensure the health and safety of the county. If people follow the recommended precautions, it will be a big help as we expect this to go on for awhile akin to a marathon instead of a sprint,” said Robert Gogats, Health Officer for Burlington County.

“We realize the developing H1N1 situation, while it has presented as a mild flu currently, is causing extra stress for us all. Residents should be concerned but there is no need to panic. Simple steps will help protect you and your family,” Gogats said.(more)

PRESS RELEASE, 4th CONFIRMED SWINE FLU CASE, ADD ONE, 5-1-09

With the likeliness of other cases, the County Emergency Operations Center is coordinating response.

The County Health Department increased monitoring and its LINCS email system messages to health providers, schools and municipalities earlier this week and is providing masks to physicians' offices and hospitals.

County residents are encouraged to take the following steps to stop the spread of influenza and other respiratory illnesses:

- Stay home when you are sick to avoid spreading illness to friends and co-workers or students. If you have flu like symptoms which include fever and any other respiratory symptom including sore throat, cough, and congestion you must stay home for 7 days or until symptoms have resolved completely or which ever comes later.
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow arm joint or in a tissue and properly dispose of used tissues.
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer to get rid of most germs and avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

The symptoms of swine influenza in people are similar to the symptoms of regular seasonal influenza infection and include fever, lethargy, coughing and lack of appetite.

Testing for swine influenza is currently only available at state and federal labs. Your physician will not be able to test you for swine flu, unless you are so severely ill you must be hospitalized.

The seasonal influenza vaccine (i.e., flu shot) does not protect against swine H1N1 viruses.

For further information about swine influenza residents can call the state hotline **866-321-9571** at or visit the CDC Web site, www.cdc.gov/swineflu. #