



310 S. Main St. • Bellefontaine, OH 43311
PH: 937.592.9040 • FX: 937.592.6746

For Immediate Release – April 28, 2009

Swine Flu Update

As of 11:00 AM ET today, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is reporting 64 confirmed cases of the disease in the U.S. The World Health Organization (WHO) has called the outbreak a public health emergency with global concern, and has raised the world-wide pandemic alert level to Phase 4.

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and the Logan County Health District (LCHD) remain on the front lines of this public health threat and will endeavor to provide you support and guidance. All citizens are urged to monitor their health and continue practicing good preventative measures.

UPDATED CDC CASE DEFINITION

A **suspected case** of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection is defined as a person with acute febrile respiratory illness with onset

- within 7 days of close contact with a person who is a confirmed case of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection, or
- within 7 days of travel to community either within the United States or internationally where there are one or more confirmed swine influenza A(H1N1) cases, or
- resides in a community where there are one or more confirmed swine influenza cases.

TESTING CRITERIA

All suspected cases of swine influenza A (H1N1) should have upper respiratory specimens collected to test for swine influenza A (H1N1) virus.

PREFERRED RESPIRATORY SPECIMENS

The following should be collected as soon as possible after illness onset: nasopharyngeal swab/aspirate or nasal wash/aspirate. If these specimens cannot be collected, a combined nasal swab with an oropharyngeal swab is acceptable. For patients who are intubated, an endotracheal aspirate should also be collected. Specimens should be placed into sterile viral transport media (VTM) and immediately placed on ice or cold packs or at 4°C (refrigerator) for transport to the laboratory. VTM's must be obtained through your own laboratory supplier. Persons collecting clinical specimens and laboratory personnel should follow infection control precautions.

Visit us on the web at www.loganhealth.org.

April 29, 2009

Continue to report suspect cases to LCHD for contact investigation. After office hours, please contact our 24/7 emergency number at 937-539-2330 with this information.

As a service to you, LCHD will arrange for transport of your VTM specimens to the ODH laboratory provided samples are received on cold packs at the health district office by 2:00 PM daily. A completed ODH Laboratory Isolation Form (enclosed) must accompany each specimen.

For more information concerning swine flu infection, please see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website: <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>. For specific information on travel precautions and an update on the affected areas, please visit: www.cdc.gov/travel. **For specific questions concerning swine flu, call the Ohio Department of Health Swine Flu Hotline between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm: 866-800-1404.**

-30-

Contact: Logan County Health District, Matthew Stonerock PIO, 937-592-9040 X125