



CT Department of
Emergency Management
and Homeland Security



M. Jodi Rell, Governor



CT Department of
Public Health

STATE OF CONNECTICUT H1N1 Situation Report

Report Period: November 26, 2009 to December 3, 2009

The Connecticut Departments of Public Health (DPH) and Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) are working together to provide a weekly CT H1N1 Situation Report. This report provides a brief overview of the H1N1 situation in CT, as well as on the national and international levels.

NOTE: According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) the start of the 2009-10 influenza season began Sunday August 30, 2009. All statistics provided will be based on this calendar.

I. CONNECTICUT SITUATION SUMMARY

Department of Public Health (DPH)

CT Epidemiology/Infectious Disease Section Update:

- Overall, the second wave of the 2009 pandemic continues to decline based on our syndromic surveillance systems.
- The percentage of patient visits due to influenza-like illness reported by the sentinel provider network has decreased over the past 3 weeks from 12.7% to 4.8%; the percentage of hospital ED visits due to "fever/flu" decreased over the past 2 weeks from 16% to 10.8%; and the percentage of colleges reporting students seen for with ILI decreased over the past 2 weeks from 100% to 55%.
- The number of weekly hospitalizations due to influenza is decreasing.
- While the trend is encouraging we still have significant activity and receive positive laboratory reports daily.
- The total number of confirmed Influenza A (H1N1) is now 1,731, including 383 persons who were hospitalized and 14 who died.

Vaccine distribution update: as of December 2, 2009, 792,800 doses of the H1N1 vaccine have been received in Connecticut.

CT Public Health Laboratory Update: Influenza test results from December 2, 2009:

Total specimens received 12/02/2009: 62

Total H1N1 positive: 8

Total negative for all influenza: 31

Total pending: 23

Total seasonal influenza: 0

Total H1N1 positive since 8/30/2009: 400

Local Update

- Local Health Departments (LHD) continue to set up more clinics as they receive more H1N1 vaccines.
- Some LHDs are seeking additional volunteers to assist with receipt, storage and dispensing vaccine.

Schools

- No schools closed this week.

Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS)

- Current DEMHS activation level — MONITORING (information review and sharing, and outreach mode). H1N1 incident information has been posted for state and local public safety officials on Web EOC.
- DEMHS Regional Offices continue to receive requests from local Emergency Management Directors for CERT and MRC activation approvals to assist flu clinics.

Other State Agencies

The Behavioral Health Response Network (BHRN) of the Departments of Mental Health and Addiction Service (DMHAS) and Children and Families (DCF) has been supporting H1N1 clinics as requested.

Public Information

- DPH Call center volume: Total number of calls into the DPH Hotline since inception (Oct 5th): 8,651
- 211 Infoline: For the week, Nov. 22-Nov. 29, 2009, 2-1-1 Infoline answered only 2 calls related to the H1N1 virus; however, the H1N1 recorded messages were selected 167 times. The majority of messages selected continue to be regarding vaccine availability and the difference between seasonal flu and H1N1.
- Current public messaging continues to be:
 - Connecticut is well into a second wave of the H1N1 pandemic
 - We expect to continue to see cases of influenza over the next few weeks, including hospitalizations and even death
 - Like seasonal flu, H1N1 can cause severe illness, so people should take precautions to protect themselves and others from the flu (stay home if you're sick, wash your hands, cover your cough)

II. NEW ENGLAND STATES/FEMA REGION A (inc NY&NJ) H1N1 UPDATE SUMMARY

- Rhode Island Department of Health reported in their Nov 30, 2009 Provider Briefing that the local influenza activity level continues to be widespread. There have been 336 hospitalizations cases of H1N1 in Rhode Island and 9 deaths.
- The State of New York, in partnership with pharmacies, is making antiviral medications available to New Yorkers who need the medications to combat the H1N1 flu but lack prescription health insurance or the ability to pay. Pharmacies will make the medications available by prescription at a maximum cost of \$5 per treatment course for uninsured and underinsured New Yorkers.
- The State of Massachusetts has reached an agreement with major health insurance plans to pay for swine flu vaccines given at public clinics.
- The Vermont Department of Health reports that between Sept. 1 and Nov. 28, 130 people were hospitalized in Vermont with swine flu. Three have died; all were adults with underlying medical conditions.

III. NATIONAL H1N1 SITUATION UPDATE SUMMARY

- On Nov. 24, 2009 the CDC released [Guidance for Emergency Shelters for the 2009-2010 Flu Season](#) and [Questions and Answers about CDC's Guidance for Emergency Shelters for the 2009-2010 Flu Season](#). These documents provide guidance specific for U.S.-based emergency shelters used by displaced persons during a natural or man-made disaster during the 2009-2010 influenza ("flu") season. Prevention and response measures for shelter managers, workers, volunteers, and clients are provided specifically for this flu season.
- On Nov. 30, 2009 the CDC released [Interim Guidance for management of Influenza-Like Illness aboard Commercial aircraft during the 2009-2010 Influenza Season](#).
- In December 2009 Edition of HS Today (Homeland Security – preparedness and security news article) [Concerns Grow Over Possible H1N1-H5N1 'Reassortment,' other Mutants](#).
- **Important notice from the CDC IT Security: IMPORTANT !! Phishing Alert-spoofed State Vaccination Program email**

The CDC/OCISO Cyber Security Incident Response Team (CSIRT) has received reports of fraudulent emails (phishing) referencing a CDC sponsored State Vaccination Program. The messages request that users must create a personal H1N1 (swine flu) Vaccination Profile on the cdc.gov website. The message then states that anyone that has reached the age of 18 has to have his/her personal Vaccination Profile on the cdc.gov site. **The CDC has NOT implemented a state vaccination program requiring registration on www.cdc.gov.** Users that click on the email are at risk of having malicious code installed on their system.

An **example** of the fraudulent /Phishing email follows:

Subject: State Vaccination Program

You have received this email because of the launching of State Vaccination H1N1 Program. You need to create your personal H1N1 (swine flu) Vaccination Profile on the cdc.gov website. The vaccination is not obligatory, but every person that has reached the age of 18 has to have this personal Vaccination Profile on the cdc.gov site. This profile has to be created both for the vaccinated people and the non-vaccinated ones. This profile is used for the registering system of vaccinated and non-vaccinated people. Create your Personal H1N1 Vaccination Profile using the link:

[Create Personal Profile](#)

IV. INTERNATIONAL H1N1 UPDATE SUMMARY

- World Health Organization (WHO) Update – Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 - update 76 Weekly update 27 November 2009 – As of 22 November 2009: Worldwide more than 207 countries and overseas territories or communities have reported laboratory confirmed cases of pandemic influenza H1N1 2009, including over 7820 deaths.
- WHO/Europe outbreak update, 30 November 2009: **High pandemic (H1N1) 2009 activity, particularly in children.** During the period 20–26 November 2009, very high activity was reported in the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation (north-western, Siberian and Volga regions) and Sweden. Albania, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, the Russian Federation (as a whole), Serbia, Slovenia, Spain and Switzerland reported high activity during this period, particularly in children up to 15 years of age. While clinical activity has increased over recent weeks in 16 countries, it has passed its peak in Belgium, Iceland, Ireland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom (Northern Ireland and Wales). Data for 20–26 November also indicate decreases in Bulgaria, Israel, the Netherlands, Norway and Serbia. In addition, 25 countries reported 267 new deaths associated with laboratory-confirmed pandemic (H1N1) 2009 during 20–26 November. This raises the total number of deaths reported in the European Region since April 2009 from 652 to 919.

V. NON-H1N1 INFORMATION

No report

Distribution List: CT City, Town & Tribal Nation Chief Elected Officials/Chief Executive Officers
CT City, Town & Tribal Nation Emergency Management Directors
CT City, Town & Tribal Nation Health Department/Districts
CT Emergency Management Association (CEMA) – Executive Board
CT City, Town & Tribal Nation Public Safety – Police & Fire Chiefs
Regional Planning Organizations/Agencies, Council of Governments/Elected Officials
DEMHS Coordinating Council
Regional Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Councils
State of Connecticut Emergency Operation Center (EOC) Liaisons
Security Communications Access Network (SCAN)

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December 3, 2009