



Michigan Department of Community Health, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48913  
For additional flu information visit: [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu)

## The Importance of Influenza Sentinel Sites

Did you know that the first two cases of novel influenza A (H1N1) virus were identified through the Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet)? Did you know that the ILINet has been described as the "lifeline to influenza activity" throughout the progression of what is now the next influenza pandemic? The ILINet is comprised of front-line medical providers, influenza sentinels, who volunteer to report office visits due to influenza-like illness and collect clinical specimens from a subset of those patients for respiratory virus culture at the MDCH laboratory. As the current outbreak has progressed, influenza sentinels in Michigan have played an integral role in monitoring ILI activity throughout the state. Enhanced surveillance efforts including some sites submitting daily ILI activity reports and increased specimen submissions have contributed greatly to monitoring this new virus.

New sentinels are always needed to help us understand and monitor influenza activity. Medical providers of any specialty (*e.g.*, family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, infectious disease) in nearly any setting (*e.g.*, private practice, public health clinic, urgent care center, emergency room, university student health center) can be sentinels. Contact Cristi Carlton at [CartonC2@michigan.gov](mailto:CartonC2@michigan.gov) for more information or to enroll now.

## Novel Influenza A(H1N1) Virus Infections Among Health-Care Personnel

Findings suggest that transmission of novel influenza A (H1N1) virus to Health Care Personnel (HCP) is occurring in both health-care and community settings. In April shortly after the identification of the new virus, CDC provided interim recommendations to reduce the risk for transmission in health-care settings. These included recommendations on use of personal protective equipment (PPE), management of HCP after unprotected exposures, and instruction of ill HCP not to report to work. In an MMRW report released today, CDC describes a study aimed at developing a better understanding of the risk for acquiring infection with the virus among HCP and the impact of infection-control recommendations. To view this MMWR Report, click [here](#).

## Vaccine Production Update

**WHO WELCOMES SANOFI-PASTEUR'S DONATION OF VACCINE:** Sanofi-Pasteur will donate 100 million doses of pandemic H1N1 vaccine to the World Health Organization (WHO). WHO plans to distribute these vaccines to groups who otherwise would have no access to pandemic vaccine. To view this article, click [here](#).

**STATE COMPANY WILL TEST H1N1 FLU VACCINE IN JULY:** Protein Sciences Corp. announced that it expects to have 100,000 doses completed this week. The vaccine, called PanBlok, should be ready for human clinical trials in July, and company officials are in talks with the WHO about testing. To view this article, click [here](#).

**KIDS MAY GET SWINE FLU SHOTS FIRST:** As the nation works on a vaccine to protect against the novel influenza A (H1N1), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius says schools should be prepared to operate as vaccine clinics in the fall. Given that approximately 50 percent of the 160 swine flu deaths worldwide involved young and previously healthy individuals, according to the WHO, health officials say school children could be given the vaccine first. To view this article, click [here](#).

## Recent News

Click any of the following titles to read recent articles on novel influenza A (H1N1):

[FDA Warns Web Sites against Marketing Fraudulent H1N1 Flu Virus Claims](#)

[UK Reports First Swine Flu Death Outside Americas](#)

[PAHO Urges Measured but Alert Response to Flu Pandemic](#)

[Interim CDC Guidance on Day and Residential Camps in Response to Human Infection](#)

[Children's Hospital Study Links Deaths to Post-Flu Issues](#)

[Flu Onset Exposed Supply Problems](#)

[US Implements Vaccine Plans](#)

## Novel H1N1 Flu Situation Update

**INTERNATIONAL:** The World Health Organization (WHO) declared “the world is now at the start of the 2009 influenza pandemic.” According to WHO, as of June 15, 2009, 76 countries have officially reported 35,928 cases of novel influenza A(H1N1) infection, including 163 deaths. For a breakdown of cases throughout the world, click [here](#).

**UNITED STATES:** As of June 12, 2009, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is reporting 17,855 cases, including 45 deaths in 52 states including the District of Columbia (D.C.) and Puerto Rico. For more information visit the CDC [website](#).

**MICHIGAN:** There have been 655 confirmed and probable cases, including 2 deaths as of June 13, 2009. For further information, visit Michigan’s H1N1 flu website at [www.michigan.gov/h1n1flu](http://www.michigan.gov/h1n1flu).

## Resources

Michigan’s H1N1 influenza web page:  
[www.michigan.gov/h1n1flu](http://www.michigan.gov/h1n1flu)

CDC’s H1N1 influenza web page: [www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu](http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu)

World Health Organizations H1N1 web page:  
<http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

FDA’s Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER) H1N1 influenza web page:  
<http://www.fda.gov/cber/flu/H1N1.htm>

Immunization Action Coalition H1N1 influenza web page: <http://www.immunize.org/h1n1/>

## RECENT NEWS ON SEASONAL FLU

### **WORKSITE POLICIES RELATED TO INFLUENZA VACCINATION: A CROSS-SECTIONAL SURVEY OF US REGISTERED NURSES**

To increase the rate of influenza vaccination among healthcare personnel, national recommendations call for worksites to adopt a multi-pronged strategy to encourage vaccination. In a recent study that will be published in *Human Vaccines*, researchers explored existing worksite influenza vaccination policies and attitudes toward the use of declination forms based on a cross-sectional mail survey of 2,000 registered nurses in four US states. To view the entire abstract, click [here](#).



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