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FLU UPDATES

Variant Influenza Viruses - New Name

Since August 2011, 12 cases of human infection with an influenza A (H3N2) virus with avian, swine and human genes found in U.S. swine have been detected. In the past, these viruses have been called "triple reassortant swine origin viruses". Following discussions with the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and other U.S. Federal agencies, influenza viruses that originate in swine but that are identified in humans will now be referred to as "variant" viruses and denoted with a "v." Using the new naming convention, the H3N2 virus detected in 12 people in the U.S. will now be called an "influenza A (H3N2) variant virus with genes from avian, swine and human viruses," and will be abbreviated "A (H3N2)v" for scientific purposes and "H3N2v" for general public use. Additional information is available in the attached Key Points from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Detailed information on the 12 cases are included in the December 23 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), "[Update: Influenza A \(H3N2\)v Transmission and Guidelines – Five States, 2011.](#)"

New CDC Guidance Documents for Identifying and Reporting H3N2v Cases

- [Prevention Strategies for Seasonal and Influenza A\(H3N2\)v in Health Care Settings](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Influenza Surveillance: Additional specimen collection for detection of Influenza A\(H3N2\)v Virus infections](#)
- [Interim Guidance on Specimen Collection, Processing, and Testing for Patients with Suspect Influenza A\(H3N2\)v Virus Infection](#)
- [Interim Guidance on Case Definitions to be Used For Investigations of Influenza A\(H3N2\)v Virus Cases](#)

Related News Articles

[Novel flu cases prompt new CDC guidance](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Researchers from the University of Michigan utilized the Michigan Care Improvement Registry to conduct the following study: "[Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Reminders for Children with High-Risk Conditions: A Registry-Based Randomized Trial.](#)"

Additional Flu News Articles

- [Ill woman whose newborn died trusts in flu vaccines](#)
- [Bulk of Kalamazoo County health department current flu shot supply for uninsured, under-insured children](#)

FLU RESOURCES

Stay up-to-date with:

MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu

CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

MDCH'S [MONTHLY](#) FLU POSTERS

December: "[Spread Holiday Cheer. Not the Flu.](#)"

1st National Immunization Conference Online (NICO)

The 1st NICO, a virtual conference, will take place March 26-28, 2012. The conference will be entirely online so no travel is required for presenters or attendees. There is no cost to participate and pre-registration is not required, however attendance at live workshops is limited to the first 1000 people to log in at the start of each session. Workshops will include multiple presentations and will be one hour in length, and will be recorded. Recordings will be made available on the internet after the conclusion of the conference.

For more information go to the CDC's National Immunization Conference [section](#).

Additional Immunization News Articles [For the Herd's Sake, Vaccinate](#)

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