



Health and Human Services Department

Flu Program

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Public Service Announcement

H1N1 (Swine Flu) cases in Lincoln County

Lab results from the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory have confirmed 2 cases of H1N1 (Swine Flu) in Lincoln County; one adult and one child. Both have recovered without complications.

“As cases have developed across the country, we have learned a great deal more about the virus and are treating it like other cases of influenza”, said Dr. David Long, Lincoln County Health Officer. He added that this flu “runs a fairly normal course, but that our advice remains the same—wash your hands, cover your cough and if you are sick, stay home”.

The symptoms of this new H1N1 flu virus in people are similar to the symptoms of seasonal flu and include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. A significant number of people who have been infected with this new H1N1 virus also have reported diarrhea and vomiting. The high risk groups for novel H1N1 flu are not known at this time but it’s possible that they may be the same as for seasonal influenza. People at higher risk of serious complications from seasonal flu include people age 65 years and older, children younger than 5 years old, pregnant women, people of any age with chronic medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease), and people who are immunosuppressed (e.g., taking immunosuppressive medications, infected with HIV).

Because the H1N1 Flu virus is a new strain, the state will maintain its investigation efforts, monitoring closely information gathered locally from providers, labs, hospitals, and nationally from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and other resources.

The Oregon Public Health website www.flu.oregon.gov is updated regularly to provide information such as how to identify swine flu, prevent its spread as well as materials that employers, medical providers, schools, parents and others may use.

According to CDC statistics, there have been over 11,000 cases of novel H1N1 infections in the US this year with only seventeen deaths attributable to the disease. In Oregon, there have been 160 cases recorded with no deaths from the “Swine Flu.”

Swine flu is a respiratory disease in pigs whose spread to humans has been historically rare in the U.S. Its symptoms are similar to those of normal seasonal influenza such as fever, lethargy, lack of appetite and coughing, sometimes accompanied by runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Eating pork that has been properly handled and cooked will not transmit the virus.

Further information about H1N1 can be obtained from the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/investigation.htm