



Osceola County Health Department, Epidemiology Program, 1875 Boggy Creek Road, Kissimmee, FL 34744, (407) 343-2155

## **H1N1 Influenza Update** **November 6, 2009**

FL DOH Toll-free number to provide public health information and updates on H1N1 flu available from 8 AM to 8 PM Eastern, in English, Spanish and Creole. **Telephone Number: 877-352-3581**

- **Osceola County update:** Novel H1N1 is present in our community. Almost all cases of influenza are currently due to this novel strain. Influenza like illness (ILI) activity still remains “localized” but all over in the county. The number of cases of ILI in the public school system for Week 10 (10/26/09 to 10/30/09) was 219 - this was a 4 day week. The absentee percentage for this week was 5.01%, an increase from 5.00% in week 9.
- **Vaccine update:** As of Monday November 2, 2009 there were a total of 30 million H1N1 vaccine doses allocated and about 19.4 million doses ordered in the US; it appears that the distribution of the vaccine to the local level will be slower than anticipated. Large, health department sponsored vaccination events will be conducted when more vaccine is available. The H1N1 vaccine is available to these priority groups: *Pregnant women, household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age, healthcare and emergency medical services personnel, all people from 6 months through 24 years of age, persons aged 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza* at the following locations: **America’s Urgent Care**, 1530 Celebration Blvd., Celebration, FL **Phone:** (407) 240-0129, **My Care Place**, 3501 13<sup>th</sup> Street, St Cloud, FL, **Phone:** (407) 891-6463, **Urgent Med Care**, 3211 S John Young Parkway, Kissimmee, FL 34746, **Phone:** (407) 343-1919 and **Solantic Walk-in Urgent Care**, 1471 E. Osceola Pkwy. Kissimmee, FL 34744 **Phone:** 407-452-3700.
- **Influenza in the United States, week ending 10/24/09:** From August 30 to October 24, 2009: there were 12,466 laboratory-confirmed influenza associated hospitalizations, 530 laboratory-confirmed influenza associated deaths and 25,985 pneumonia and influenza syndrome-based hospitalizations with 2,916 pneumonia and influenza syndrome-based deaths, reported to CDC. Flu activity is now widespread in 48 states.
- **CDC answers top 10 Frequently Asked Questions about 2009 H1N1 vaccine.** FAQ addresses intervals between doses, administration of seasonal and 2009 H1N1 vaccine, and more. See [http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/vaccination/top10\\_faq.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/vaccination/top10_faq.htm).
- **FDA issues emergency use authorization (EUA) for use of intravenous (IV) antiviral peramivir for the treatment of 2009 H1N1 influenza.** This experimental drug has been authorized for IV treatment of certain patients with suspect or confirmed 2009 H1N1 (or nonsubtypable influenza A virus suspected to be 2009 H1N1) who are hospitalized and either are not responding to oral or inhaled antivirals, or for whom drug delivery by a route other than IV is not expected to be dependable or is not feasible. See <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/eua/peramivir.htm> for more information.
- **CDC schedules numerous updates for clinicians on H1N1.** Scheduled conference calls this week cover antiviral treatment options in critically ill (ICU) patients, H1N1 influenza and children, diabetes and influenza, and infection control issues in healthcare facilities. For more information, see <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/coca/callinfo.asp>.
- **President Obama declares 2009 H1N1 pandemic a national emergency.** The proclamation will allow authorities to waive legal requirements, if necessary, that could otherwise limit the ability of the health care system to respond to a surge of patients. See <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/swineflu/news/oct2609declarat-jw.html>
- **Pregnant women should be vaccinated against 2009 H1N1 and seasonal influenza.**
  - Six percent of confirmed 2009 H1N1 deaths have been pregnant women, however pregnant women make up only about one percent of the general population. Pregnant women have an increased risk of morbidity and mortality from both 2009 H1N1 and seasonal influenza.
  - Vaccination against influenza can reduce the risk of serious illness and complications in the pregnant women, as well as reduce the risk of illness in the newborn infant. For vaccination recommendations, see [http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/clinicians/pdf/Dear\\_Colleague\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/clinicians/pdf/Dear_Colleague_FINAL.pdf) and for recent research on vaccine benefits on pregnant women, see <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/swineflu/news/oct2909idsa2.html>.
  - CDC hotline available to clarify CDC guidance for pregnant women: Telephone consultation with a board-certified OB/GYN will be provided for health care providers. Call 404-368-2133.
  - CDC guidance regarding the care and treatment of pregnant women: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>
  - Note: women <2 weeks postpartum should now be considered high risk for influenza complications and prioritized for antiviral treatment if they develop symptoms of influenza.

