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Through: Kansas City, Missouri Health Department

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Subject: Local 2009 H1N1 Influenza Cases Confirmed



Public Health
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**IMPORTANT
SWINE INFLUENZA INFORMATION – MUST BE SHARED WITH ALL MEDICAL STAFF**

The City of Kansas City, Mo., Health Department announced today that the Kansas City, Mo., resident who had been identified as a probable case by Nebraska authorities has been confirmed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to be infected with the 2009 H1N1 flu. The Health Department is notifying all close contacts and discussing with them possible symptoms and treatment.

As other municipalities in the Kansas City Metro also have confirmed cases, the Health Department advises continued precautions to prevent infection, including hand-washing, covering coughs and sneezes with your elbow or a tissue and throwing the tissue away and staying home if you feel sick.

The Health Department is still monitoring area hospitals for those who may be infected and is working with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and CDC to test suspect cases.

On 05/01/2009, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also confirmed that a woman from Platte County, Missouri, was infected with 2009 H1N1 virus. This was the state's first confirmed case. The patient, who is in her 30's, had recently traveled to Mexico. She received antiviral medication and was never admitted to a hospital. Health officials have informed all persons with whom she had direct contact so that they can receive appropriate medical care.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) continues to conduct enhanced surveillance for swine influenza cases. As part of this effort, the Missouri State Public Health Laboratory (MSPHL) is performing polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing for H1N1 influenza virus on specimens from patients **who meet certain epidemiologic criteria**. See Health Update #2 - Swine Influenza for further details, including submission criteria and acceptable specimens. (This document is available on DHSS's website at http://www.dhss.mo.gov/BT_Response/HAdS/HU2SwineFlu4-28-09.pdf) In addition to the submission criteria listed in Health Update #2, specimens will also now be accepted from patients with a febrile influenza-like illness who are admitted to a hospital. **Before any specimen is sent to MSPHL for testing, DHSS staff must first be consulted for sample submission by calling 800-392-0272.** For DHSS-approved sentinel surveillance providers, consultation with DHSS prior to sending specimens is not required.

SPECIAL SUNDAY LABORATORY COURIER PICK-UP
May 3, 2009

In order to facilitate timely laboratory testing of approved specimens from persons suspected of being infected with swine influenza virus, MSPHL is implementing a Sunday courier pick-up for May 3, 2009, for overnight delivery. This service is intended to provide a drop site for DHSS-approved (see preceding paragraph) clinical specimens that are to be sent to MSPHL for analysis. **Only properly packaged specimens will be accepted.** The hospital site will not be responsible for packaging the specimens and therefore reserves the right to refuse a specimen for delivery. All specimens must arrive at the designated hospital location prior to 12:00 p.m. on May 3, 2009, for this service to be utilized. The participating hospital in the area is listed below.

FACILITY	COUNTY	DESIGNATED LOCATION
St. Luke's Hospital KC 4401 Wornall Road Kansas City	Jackson County	Reference Laboratory

All medical providers should immediately report any observed clusters or outbreaks of febrile influenza-like illness to the Kansas City, Missouri Health Department (816-513-6152) or to the local public health agency in their jurisdiction.

Information and links to clinical guidance documents for Missouri medical providers are available on the DHSS Swine Influenza website, at: http://www.dhss.mo.gov/BT_Response/MedProfs.html.