



Office of the UN Resident Coordinator
 UN Staff Influenza Pandemic Update # 18
 25th September, 2009

Influenza A (H1N1)

Background (Overall Pandemic Situation)

According to the World Health Organization, there are almost 300,000 cases and over 3,400 deaths from 190 countries and territories as of 13 September 2009.

Laboratory-confirmed cases of Influenza A (H1N1) 2009 as officially reported to the World Health Organization (WHO) by States Parties to the IHR (2005) as of 13 September 2009:

Region	Cumulative total as of 13 September 2009	
	Cases*	Deaths
WHO Regional Office for Africa (AFRO)	8125	40
WHO Regional Office for the Americas (AMRO)	124126	2625
WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO)	10533	61
WHO Regional Office for Europe (EURO)	over 52000	at least 140
WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia (SEARO)	25339	283
WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WPRO)	76348	337
Total	over 296471	at least 3486

Given that countries are no longer required to test and report individual cases, the number of cases reported actually understates the real number of cases.

- The general surveillance picture is unchanged from the last update. The trend in respiratory disease activity is now decreasing in Chile, Argentina, Australia, Uruguay, Canada, USA and European countries.
- Majority of cases are still among younger people with median age of 12-17 years (based on data from Canada, Chile, Japan, UK and US).
- Some reports suggest that persons requiring hospitalisation or with fatal illness may be slightly older. Deaths among young and middle aged adults with severe viral pneumonia - as the main cause of death - continue to be reported. About 40% of these cases occur in individuals without underlying health problems, though this figure varies widely by country reporting.
- As the disease expands, average age is increasing slightly. This may reflect the situation where the earliest cases occurred as school outbreaks and later expanded to community. WHO's top priority is to determine which groups of people are at increased risk of serious disease so that measures to best protect them can be taken.

Influenza Situation in Nepal

As of 23rd September 2009, Nepal has reported 34 confirmed cases of Influenza A (H1N1) 2009. All of them were given Tamiflu and put in isolation and all of them have recovered.



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Action taken by the Government of Nepal

- ✓ In an attempt to find out whether the disease is being transmitted locally in Nepal, the Ministry of Health and Population, with assistance from WHO, for the past week, has been collecting samples of influenza-like illness from four major hospitals. The National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) will test the collected samples.
- ✓ Surveillance activity and health screening at Tribhuvan International Airport and major land-crossing continues.
- ✓ Guidelines on who should get laboratory test; who should seek immediate medical care; and who should get anti-viral treatment have been developed and widely circulated.
- ✓ Public and private hospitals including security forces' hospitals have been instructed to establish an isolation room and health workers have been trained on case management and infection control.
- ✓ Standard Operating Procedures on patient management have been circulated widely to all hospitals.
- ✓ Community mitigation and health promotion materials have been disseminated to communities.
- ✓ Media messages on H1N1 and preventive measures have been disseminated.

Advice for Personal Protection of Staff and Dependents

1. Please refer to previous updates.
2. Please visit to http://www.who.int/csr/don/2009_09_18/en/index.html for more information.

REMEMBER FLU DOs and DON'Ts

Ends.