



Office of the UN Resident Coordinator
UN Staff Influenza Pandemic Update # 19
23rd October, 2009

Influenza A (H1N1)

1. Background (Overall Pandemic Situation)

Laboratory-confirmed cases of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 as officially reported to WHO by States Parties to the IHR (2005) as of 16 October 2009, there are over 399232 cases and at least 4735 deaths. Many new countries have reported community outbreak and local transmission.

Region	Cumulative total	
	as of 11 October 2009	
	Cases*	Deaths
WHO Regional Office for Africa (AFRO)	12456	70
WHO Regional Office for the Americas (AMRO)	153697	3406
WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO)	13855	90
WHO Regional Office for Europe (EURO)	Over 61000	At least 207
WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia (SEARO)	39522	530
WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WPRO)	118702	432
Total	Over 399232	At least 4735

*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.

Influenza Situation in Nepal

Nepal has reported the evidence of local transmission in Kathmandu and Chitwan districts. Hence total number of cases in Nepal is now 44, which includes imported cases (36) and cases of local transmission (8). All cases have recovered from the illnesses. The cases of local transmission have recovered without taking anti-virals. No one is so far admitted for the severity.

2. Action taken by the Government of Nepal

- ✓ A press conference was called to disseminate information on the new cases of local transmission. WHO Nepal and the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) issued a joint press release. The media was briefed about the Chitwan incidence, where increasing number of cases have been reported due to mix-type of infections. Media message on H1N1 and preventive measures have been disseminated.
- ✓ Guidelines on who should get laboratory test; who should seek immediate medical care; and who should get antivirals 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.



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- ✓ The community mitigation and health promotion materials have been disseminated to the community.
- ✓ Media messages on H1N1 and preventive measures have been disseminated.

3. Action taken by the UN Nepal

UN Influenza Task Force (UNITF) held its regular meeting on 22nd October. WHO Representative, Dr. Alexander Andjaparidzea briefed the UNITF on the newly reported cases and on the guidelines for vaccines distribution after it becomes available for Nepal. He informed the UNITF members that WHO has conducted trainings for trainers.

UNICEF continues to provide technical support to National Health Education Information Communication Centre (NHEICC) and Epidemiological Disease Control Division (EDCD) to write press releases and prepare media briefing. Technical support provided to organise orientation to media held on 15th of October at NHEICC. 10, 00000 leaflets and 5000 flex posters are being printed. The leaflet, flex posters will be distributed through Nepal Red Cross Society and through community mobilisers in districts. Through an organisation called Green Plus Society, key messages on pandemic influenza is being disseminated in schools in Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur. UNICEF is also disseminating key messages at community level in four districts through school children to families and communities. UNICEF is working with other partners like AI.COM, Save the Children Alliance and Plan International to broadcast messages through radio and TV

4 Advice for Personal Protection of Staff and Dependants

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.