



Protecting Your Business and Customers

2009 H1N1 Flu Background Information



Proper Cleaning and Sanitation May Save Lives and Your Business

Sustainability and Business and Well Being

The professional world of tourism with hotels, transportation, food service and building service contractors has had some experience with the outbreaks of Avian Flu or SARS and is aware of the consequences that these can bring. A precautionary forced reduction in mobility of the people disturbs the rhythm of businesses. Service providers also take on the responsibility of their guests as well as their employees and, being prepared and taking preventive measures is a business necessity as well as an ethical one. Hotels, restaurants, airports, as well as schools, hospitals and utilities want to demonstrate that as much as reasonably possible all measures are in place to attain safe and healthy meeting places.

An outbreak may effect the health of your customers, employees and business...

What is 2009 H1N1 Flu?

2009 H1N1 flu is a respiratory disease caused by type A influenza viruses that causes regular outbreaks in pigs. People do not normally get 2009 H1N1 flu, but human infections can and do happen. 2009 H1N1 flu viruses have been reported to spread from person-to-person, but in the past, this transmission was limited and not sustained beyond three people.

Given the new information on how it can be spread, the virus (H1N1) is believed to be a mutated form. This new strain is a hybrid of swine, human and avian flu viruses and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says it can be spread from human to human but the level of virulence is not yet clear (04/28/2009).

Signs and Symptoms or H1N1 Flu in People

The symptoms of 2009 H1N1 flu in people are similar to those of regular human flu and include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people have also reported diarrhea and vomiting. In the past, severe illness (pneumonia and respiratory failure) and deaths have been reported with 2009 H1N1 flu infection in people. Like seasonal flu, 2009 H1N1 flu may cause a worsening of underlying chronic medical conditions.





Spread of the Flu Among People

Infected people may be able to infect others beginning 1 day before symptoms develop and up to 7 or more days after becoming sick. This means that you may be able to pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick. Children, especially younger children, may be contagious for longer periods.

The spread of 2009 H1N1 flu is thought to be happening in the same way that seasonal flu spreads. Flu viruses are spread mainly from person to person through coughing or sneezing of people with influenza. Sometimes people may become infected by touching something with flu viruses on it and then touching their mouth or nose.

2009 H1N1 flu is not spread by food. You cannot get it from eating properly handled and cooked pork or pork products.

Good Hygiene Practices Reduce Infection Risk

Necessary Precautions – WHO Standard Recommendations

- Avoid close contact with people who appear ill and who have fever or coughs.
- Wash your hands with soap and water frequently and thoroughly.
- Practice good healthy habits including adequate sleep, eating nutritious food and keeping physically active.

Simple modifications to your cleaning processes may help you avoid the flu

Necessary Precautions – Other Sources

- Cough or sneeze into your arm (inside elbow) or into a tissue, (discard immediately in trash). Do not cover your mouth with your hands.
- See your doctor if you have a fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue, diarrhea or vomiting.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces frequently with a registered disinfectant cleaner that has Influenza A claims.
- Viruses can survive on hard surfaces for two hours or longer so regularly clean and disinfect high touch surfaces such as cafeteria tables, desks, door knobs, light switches, desk tops, restroom fixtures, telephones, door push plates, elevator buttons etc.

Cross Contamination – Surfaces to Watch

Droplets from a cough or sneeze of an infected person move through the air and settle on surfaces. Germs are then spread when a person touches these respiratory droplets and then their own eyes, mouth or nose before washing their hands.

Medicine for Treatment

CDC recommends the use of Oseltamivir or Zanamivir for the treatment and/or prevention of infection with the 2009 H1N1 flu. Antiviral drugs are prescription medicines (pills, liquid or an inhaler) that fight against the flu by keeping flu viruses from reproducing in your body. If you get sick, antiviral drugs can make your illness milder and make you feel better faster. They may also prevent serious flu complications. For treatment, antiviral drugs work best if started soon after getting sick (within 2 days of symptoms).

JohnsonDiversey is ready to work with you to reduce the risks concerning the influenza

Past Cases of Swine Flu (Influenza A)

Like seasonal flu, swine flu in humans can vary in severity from mild to severe. Between 2005 and January 2009, 12 human cases of swine flu were detected in the U.S. with no deaths occurring. However, swine flu infection can be serious. In September 1988, a previously healthy 32-year-old pregnant woman in Wisconsin was hospitalized for pneumonia after being infected with swine flu and died 8 days later. In 1976, a swine flu outbreak in Fort Dix, New Jersey caused more than 200 cases with serious illness in several people and one death.



In Case of an Outbreak

In case a local outbreak occurs and in particular when it is confirmed that there is a risk that the virus will spread from person to person, the World Health Organization (WHO), World Health Organization for Animal Health (OIE), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and local health authorities will likely issue further strict requirements and procedures to reduce the risk of human cross-infection in closed as well as public areas.

As of 4/29/2009, the situation has been identified as a Phase 5 alert which is characterized as involving “sustained human-to-human transmission” by WHO.

WHO (World Health Organization) Phases for a Possible Pandemic

Inter-pandemic period

Phase 1 – No new influenza virus subtypes have been detected in humans. An influenza virus subtype that has caused human infection may be present in animals. If present in animals, the risk of human infection or disease is considered to be low.

Phase 2 – No new influenza virus subtypes have been detected in humans. However, a circulated animal influenza virus subtype poses a substantial risk of human disease.

Pandemic Alert Period

Phase 3 – Human infection(s) with a new subtype, but no new human-to-human spread, or at most rare instances of spread to a close contact.

Phase 4 – Small cluster(s) with limited human-to-human transmission but spread is highly localized, suggesting that the virus is not well adapted to humans.

Phase 5 – Large cluster(s) but human-to-human spread still localized, suggesting that the virus is becoming increasingly better adapted to humans, but may not yet be fully transmissible (substantial pandemic risk).

Pandemic Period

Phase 6 – Pandemic phase: increased and sustained transmission in the general population.

References and Useful Websites

For additional information regarding 2009 H1N1 flu, please visit the following links:

- http://www.who.int/csr/swine_flu/swine_flu_faq.pdf
- <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>
- <http://www.fao.org/>
- <http://www.hc-gc.ca/index-eng.php>

Recommendations have been compiled from guidelines issued by major international disease control agencies. They should be viewed as complementary to requirements issued by local health authorities.

This document is intended as an introduction to 2009 H1N1 flu. Tables of recommended products and dosages are available from your JohnsonDiversey sales representatives to achieve safe, hygienic conditions. The products described are EPA registered in the USA or DIN registered in Canada and are effective against Influenza A viruses.

For more detailed information both on recommended practices and products available for decontamination of surfaces, objects, hand and the environment, contact your local JohnsonDiversey sales representatives.



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The JohnsonDiversey Advantage

Beyond clean, we are dedicated
to being the best at simplifying
the lives of our customers.

We are committed to doing this by:

- Investing the time to listen, understand and respond to customers' unique cleaning and hygiene needs
- Taking a personal interest to ensure the facilities they care for are consistently clean, safe and attractive
- Pursuing innovation in every form likely to make the lives of our customers simpler and more profitable
- Partnering with you to exceed your customers' expectations every day, everywhere

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