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H1N1 UPDATE (9/10/09, 10:00 A.M.)

VACCINATION PLANS

- Vaccine is expected mid to late October 2009.
- Awaiting confirmation of the need for two doses.
- We are working with the 85 private providers within the District to identify those willing to vaccinate to ensure they pre-register with the CT DPH to be eligible to order the vaccine. The Health District has also pre-registered for vaccine to cover 30,000 people.
- All four school districts have agreed to allow the Health District to run flu clinics on school grounds. The Health District anticipates federal funding to allow us to contract with private vaccinators to work at the clinics. We have contacted VNA Health Care Inc., the Berlin VNA and numerous private physicians and nurses who would be willing to contract for services. Additional public clinics will also be held at community centers etc.
- The initial supply of vaccine will likely be limited and prioritized for the following groups:
 - pregnant women
 - people who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age
 - health care and emergency services personnel with direct patient contact
 - children 6 months through 4 years of age
 - children 5 through 18 years of age who have chronic medical conditions.

UPDATES:

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

- Over 130 countries have reported over 254,206* confirmed cases including 2,837 deaths. *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.

CDC

- Number of individual cases no longer reported. 9,079 hospitalizations and 593 deaths reported.

CT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

- 1,985 residents have tested positive from all 8 counties (over 100 towns).
- Age range less than 1 year to 93 (median 14). Split 50.88% female, 47.25% male and 1.86 % unknown.
- 139 have been reported as needing hospitalization and 9 have died.

- 30 confirmed cases reported within the CCHD. (Berlin 5, Newington 2, Rocky Hill 17 and Wethersfield 6).

PREVENTION

Personal hygiene:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- **Individuals with influenza-like illness should remain at home (except to get medical care or for other necessities) until at least 24 hours after they are free of fever (100° F [37.8° C] or greater), or signs of a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications.**
- Keep away from others as much as possible. This is to keep from making others sick.

Cleaning:

- People can sometimes get flu if they touch droplets left on hard surfaces and objects by those who are ill and then touch their eyes, nose or mouth.
- Studies have shown that flu virus can survive on environmental surfaces and can infect a person for up to 2-8 hours after being deposited on the surface.
- Surfaces and areas that people touch often should be routinely cleaned with the cleaners that are typically used. Special cleaning with bleach and other special cleaners is not necessary.
- Environmental cleaning should not be the primary focus of flu prevention activities.

More information on swine flu:

Connecticut Flu Watch: www.ct.gov/ctfluwatch/swineflu

Connecticut Department of Public Health: www.ct.gov/dph

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu

CDC School Guidance <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/schools/>

CDC Technical Report for Schools <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/schools/technicalreport.htm>

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