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H1N1 Flu Meeting In Indiana Next Week

Posted: 3:30 pm EDT July 31, 2009 Updated: 9:40 pm EDT July 31, 2009

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana -- Health experts from around Indiana will meet next week to discuss the status of the state's H¹N¹ flu outbreak.

Officials from the State Department of Health and the Department of Homeland Security will meet with local health and emergency management people to prepare for the fall flu season.

Their discussions will include the possibility of mass vaccinations.

Indiana has a total of 294 confirmed cases of the H1N1 flu and four people have died.

There are 212 confirmed cases in Ohio and one death that occurred in Butler County.

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TheIndyChannel.com

Indiana Records 4th H1N1 Death

Elkhart County Resident Dies From Flu Complications

POSTED: 12:50 pm EDT July 31, 2009

ELKHART, Ind. -- A fourth Indiana resident has died from complications related to H1N1, otherwise known as swine flu.

Health Commissioner Judy Monroe said Friday that an Elkhart County resident had died. Additional information about the person's death wasn't immediately released.

"It is very unfortunate but not unexpected we would have additional deaths this summer," Monroe said. "The best thing the public can do right now is continue to take preventative measures and practice good hygiene."

Monroe said parents of school-aged children should line up backup child care plans this fall in case schools are closed because of the flu.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued guidelines that indicate that schools should stay open unless "there is a magnitude of faculty or student absenteeism that interferes with the school's ability to function."

Health officials and the Department of Homeland Security are devising ways to cope with an expected increase in flu cases this fall.

Previous Stories:

- July 30, 2009: [CDC: Schools Shouldn't Close For Every Flu Case](#)
- July 28, 2009: [Flu Kills Woman Weeks After Brother's Death](#)
- July 17, 2009: [State Reports Second Flu Death](#)
- July 16, 2009: [Mom: Source Unknown For Ind.'s 1st Fatal Flu Case](#)
- July 10, 2009: [19-Year-Old First State Flu Death](#)

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State Health Commissioner Reminds Hoosiers Pandemic H1N1 Influenza Is Still Circulating

INDIANAPOLIS, IN - State Health Commissioner Judy Monroe, M.D. says the pandemic H1N1 influenza virus is still circulating in Indiana and people should continue to take preventative steps to stay healthy and limit the spread of the virus.

Dr. Monroe reports a resident of Elkhart County has died from complications related to pandemic H1N1 influenza, the fourth death linked to this novel flu virus in Indiana. The Indiana State Department of Health will not be releasing any other information about the individual for confidentiality reasons.

"It is very unfortunate but not unexpected we would have additional deaths this summer," said Dr. Monroe. "The best thing the public can do right now is continue to take preventative measures and practice good hygiene. Doing so will help you avoid becoming sick and spreading illness."

To stay healthy, follow the three C's:

- Clean - properly wash your hands frequently
- Cover - cover your cough and sneeze
- Contain - contain your germs by staying home if you are sick.

Dr. Monroe also urges parents to be prepared for the possibility of schools closings during the fall flu season by having a plan for alternative child care.

In preparation for the fall flu season and the possibility of mass vaccinations, the Indiana State Department of Health and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) are working diligently with local health departments and Emergency Management Agencies (EMA). Nearly 180 public health officials and EMA representatives from around the state met on July 27 in Orange County and another is scheduled for August 4 in Wabash County.

Learn more about pandemic influenza and how to prepare at: www.flu.gov.

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