



Otago
District Health Board
Poari Hauora-ā-rohe ki Ōtāgo



Southland District
HEALTH BOARD
Te Poari Hauora o te Rohe o Murihiku

**To: Staff at Otago and Southland District Health Boards
External Stakeholder Group**

Advisory 3 - 29 April 2009 at 17.00 hrs

From: District Health Board Incident Controller Leanne Samuel

Subject: Swine Influenza

Note:

1: This advisory remains current until the situation changes or new information is made available.

2: All clinical teams please collect this information and subsequent information in folders. Department heads please print this information and make it visible e.g. on staff notice boards.

While three people in the North Island have tested positive for Swine Flu H1N1, so far none of the people from Southland or Otago who were on the affected flight NZ1 have any symptoms.

There are now 27 people in Otago and Southland who have been contacted as they were on flight NZ1. All have been offered antiviral medication Tamiflu.

People who were on domestic flights with passengers from the affected flight NZ1 (Saturday, 25 April) are not considered to be at increased risk of getting swine flu.

We remind people with concerns about swine flu to either phone the national free healthline on 0800 611 116 or their medical centre. Please do not just turn up at hospitals or medical centres.

Advice from the Ministry of Health is that if you are feeling unwell and have not travelled in the affected areas in the seven days before becoming ill, do what you would normally do. If necessary, phone your doctor for further advice."

However, if you have returned from Mexico or the United States in the past seven days, and start to develop symptoms of influenza please phone a health professional for further advice. The incubation period for the flu ranges from two to seven days.

We are reminding people about:

1. The importance of reviewing and updating plans for managing a major infection event in the workplace.
2. The principles of infection prevention and control, such as thoroughly washing and drying your hands regularly.
3. Keeping informed by watching international websites

<http://www.who.int/en/>

<http://www.cdc.gov/>

<http://www.moh.govt.nz>

Case Definitions for Infection with Swine Influenza A (H1N1) Virus

Ministry of Health, NHCC, 28th April 2009, 1530 hrs

Confirmed case

A confirmed case of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection is defined as a person with an acute respiratory illness with laboratory confirmed swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection by one or more of the following tests:

- real-time RT-PCR
- viral culture
- four-fold rise in swine influenza A(H1N1) virus specific neutralising antibodies

Probable case

A probable case of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection is defined as a person with an acute respiratory illness with an influenza test that is positive for influenza A, and has developed symptoms within 7 days of travel to an area of concern

OR

A probable case of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection is defined as a person with an acute respiratory illness with an influenza test that is positive for influenza A, and is considered to be a close contact of a probable or confirmed case

Suspected case

A suspected case of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection is defined as a person with an acute respiratory illness who has developed symptoms within 7 days of travel to an area of concern

OR

A suspected case of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection is defined as a person with an acute respiratory illness who is considered to be a close contact of a probable or confirmed case.

Close contact

Close contact is defined as having cared for, lived with, or had direct contact with respiratory secretions or bodily fluids of a probable or confirmed case.

Acute respiratory illness

For the purpose of these case definitions, an acute respiratory illness is defined as:

- Recent onset of at least 2 of the following:
 1. Rhinorrhoea or nasal congestion
 2. Sore throat
 3. Cough
 4. Fever or feverishness

OR

- Influenza-like illness: fever $>37.8^{\circ}\text{C}$ plus cough or sore throat

Area of concern

An area of concern is any country so defined by the Ministry of Health