



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



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

Swine Influenza

2 May 2009 at 4pm

Media Release 6

The first people quarantined in Otago and Southland are now out of voluntary quarantine and Public Health South staff sincerely thanks them for their co-operation, as quarantine is an essential tool for reducing the spread of illness in the community.

One new person has been placed in voluntary isolation.

"This person contacted their doctor when they started to feel unwell seven days after travelling in an area of concern. The person fits the case definition of a suspected case of influenza A (H1N1)," said Otago and Southland Medical Officer of Health Dr John Holmes.

"The person is now in home isolation, viral swabs have been taken and they are being treated with anti-viral medication Tamiflu. Public Health South will continue to monitor the person's condition.

Tamiflu is being sold by community pharmacists to people who display symptoms of influenza-like illness. The symptoms are sudden onset of illness with fever of >38degC, sore throat, cough, headaches, body aches, chills and fatigue.

People who meet the case definition for the influenza A (H1N1) virus can expect to have viral swabs taken, go into voluntary quarantine and to be on Tamiflu. People who do not meet the case definition should not expect to be swabbed.

We encourage everyone to review and update their pandemic response plan and keep informed about H1N1. Information is available on the international web sites

www.who.int/en/
www.cdc.gov/
www.moh.govt.nz

We remind everyone with concerns about H1N1 to either phone the national toll free phone line on 0800 FLULINE (0800 3585 463) or their medical centre. They should not just show up at hospitals or medical centres.

For further information please contact Southland District Health Board Communications Officer Jo Harvey on 027 674 1758.

For queries on Sunday, 3 May, please contact Environment Southland Communications Officer Michele Poole on 021 784 964.