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**From:** Becker-Cornell, Della

**Sent:** Sunday, November 01, 2009 3:52 PM

**To:** Pepperdine, April; Babetski, Juliana; Sheehy, Betty; Fritzsching, Kristyn; Curry, Kimberly; Miller, Carolyn; Gottler, Mary; Pauldine, Janelle; Sevick, Rhonda; Ford, Susan; Hyatt, Tara; Couture, Tammi; Powell, Vickie (Education Department); Hooker, Wendee

**Subject:** UM-Flint ECDC/Campus Update on H1N1 Virus and Flu Activity

Please forward to families:

Dear ECDC Families and Staff:

This is a comprehensive update covering the H1N1 flu, increased flu activity in Michigan and Genesee County, and plans for vaccination clinics. We would like to update you on efforts that are currently underway, and continue to provide you with information to help you and your family during the coming winter months.

### **Status of H1N1 Virus in Michigan and Genesee County**

The University continues to monitor developments regarding the current flu season and the spread of the H1N1 virus. The H1N1 virus is widespread throughout the State of Michigan and most of the United States. The State of Michigan and the Genesee County Health Department have confirmed that H1N1 is the dominant influenza strain in the region with the majority of people presenting with influenza like illness (ILI). While there has not been an officially confirmed case of H1N1 flu on the campus, there have been a few suspect cases. The State of Michigan Medical Laboratory is only performing confirmation H1N1 flu tests for individuals that are hospitalized, therefore, it is quite possible for people to be infected with the virus and not be confirmed as H1N1.

Because it appears that the flu may start to surge locally, it's more important than ever that we all do whatever we can to avoid spreading the flu. In the best interest of the health and wellness of all members of the campus community, we believe it is prudent to operate as if the H1N1 virus has been found on campus. What this means for you is to continue to be vigilant in protecting yourself by staying home if you are ill, covering your cough by using your arm/shoulder, washing your hands regularly and keeping your hands away from your face. If you do become ill with the flu, it's important that you isolate yourself from others until your fever has been gone for at least 24 hours without a fever-reducing medication.

### **H1N1 Flu Vaccination**

The UM-Flint Urban Health and Wellness Center has partnered with the Genesee County Health Department and the Visiting Nurses Association to offer H1N1 flu vaccination clinics here on campus once the H1N1 vaccine is made available to UM-Flint.

**Due to the extremely limited supply of H1N1 vaccine, the health department has asked that all health care providers limit the vaccine to those members of the community who need it the most.** This is consistent with the CDC's guidance. This means initially limiting vaccine for the following target priority groups:

- Pregnant women,
- People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age,
- Health care and emergency medical services personnel with direct patient contact,
- Children 6 months through 4 years of age, and
- Children 5 through 18 years of age who have chronic medical conditions.

**However, as soon as the vaccine is widely available, all UM-Flint students, faculty and staff will be able to receive a H1N1 vaccine at no charge.** As we get new information on the H1N1 vaccine, as well as new supplies of the seasonal flu vaccine, we will post that information on the UM-Flint website and send an email update to the campus.

Individuals interested in information regarding the H1N1 vaccine should also contact their personal physician or check the Genesee County Health Department website for vaccination locations. The website for the Health Department is:

<http://www.gchd.us/HotTopics/H1N1Flu.asp>

### **What to do if a child, family member or ECDC employee is diagnosed with the flu**

We have received several questions about how to react when a child or staff member is diagnosed with the flu or flu-like symptoms. If an individual does become ill, there is no need to be fearful or anxious. Continue to follow good personal hygiene and flu prevention measures while monitoring your own health carefully. We will isolate children as necessary until a family member can pick them up. We will continue to encourage others to stay home if they feel ill to reduce exposure to others.

In addition, we will continue to be vigilant in our cleaning and sanitizing. Individuals may wish to carry their own personal hand sanitizer or wipes with them for use throughout the day. Campus Housekeeping will continue to keep up their efforts in maintaining a clean facility.

### **Helpful Links and Resources**

If you have any questions regarding this flu season, you are encouraged to send your questions to [fluquestions@umflint.edu](mailto:fluquestions@umflint.edu). You will receive a response within 24 hours.

For those of you living outside of Genesee County, below you will find links to other county Public Health Department sites.

#### Oakland County

To register for a H1N1 vaccine: [http://www.oakgov.com/health/info\\_pub/swine\\_flu.html](http://www.oakgov.com/health/info_pub/swine_flu.html)

#### Macomb County

For information go to: <http://www.macombcountymi.gov/PUBLICHEALTH/>

#### Lapeer County

For information go to: <http://lchd.lapeer.org/WhatsNew.php>

#### Saginaw County

For information go to: <http://www.saginawpublichealth.org/articles.asp?hdid=54>

#### Tuscola County

For information go to: <http://www.tchd.us/>

#### Shiawassee County

For information go to: <http://health.shiawassee.net/>

#### Washtenaw County

For information go to:

[http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/public\\_health](http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/public_health)

#### Livingston County

For information go to: <http://www.lchd.org/>

#### Mid-Michigan District Health Department (Clinton, Gratiot & Montcalm Co.)

For information go to: <http://www.mmdhd.org/>

For all other updates related to the H1N1 virus and other campus preparedness planning, go to <http://umflint.edu/ehs/Pan%20Flu%20Planning.htm>.

Each one of us play an important role in keeping the campus safe and healthy. Your continued efforts in following flu prevention measures is essential in stopping the spread of the flu during this particularly difficult flu season. We will continue to provide more updates as information becomes available.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation and understanding.

Regards,

Mike Lane  
UM-Flint Environment, Health and Safety

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