



For MMWR week 28:

- 7 states reported **widespread** activity
- 13 states reported **regional** activity
- 13 states reported **local** activity
- 17 states reported **sporadic** activity
- 0 states reported **no activity**

Nevada has 5 reporting regions. For MMWR week 28, we are at “**regional**” influenza activity.

Information on influenza activity and surveillance can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>

## **H1N1 Vaccine**

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced on July 22, 2009 that five clinical trials will soon begin to test 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine candidates. These clinical trials will initially look at the safety and immune response (the body’s defense against disease) in healthy adult (aged 18-64 years old) and elderly (aged 65 and older) individuals. Assessment will also be done to determine the correct dosage (one or two 15 microgram doses or one or two 30 microgram doses) needed. If these studies show that the vaccines are safe, similar clinical trials will be conducted in healthy children (aged 6 months to 17 years old). Information on the five clinical trials can be found at <http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?intr=%22Inactivated+H1N1+Vaccine%22>.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) held a special meeting on Novel Influenza A (H1N1) on July 29, 2009 to discuss and vote on H1N1 vaccine priority groups. The recommended priority groups are:

- Pregnant women
- Healthcare workers and emergency medical responders
- People caring for infants under 6 months of age
- Children and young adults from 6 months to 24 years of age
- People aged 25-64 years with underlying medical conditions (e.g. asthma, diabetes)

## **Seasonal Influenza Vaccine**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced on July 20, 2009 that a vaccine for 2009-2010 seasonal influenza has been approved for use in the United States.

**This vaccine will not protect against the novel H1N1 influenza virus.**

The 2009-2010 seasonal influenza vaccine contains:

- A/Brisbane/59/2007 (H1N1)-like virus
- A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2)-like virus
- B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus

The strains to be included in a seasonal influenza vaccine are based on forecasts by experts from the CDC, FDA, WHO and other institutions who study virus samples and patterns from around the world to identify strains that may cause the most illness in the upcoming season, as well recommendations of the FDA’s Vaccine and Related Products Advisory Committee.

Information on the 2009-2010 seasonal influenza vaccine can be found at <http://www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Post-MarketActivities/LotReleases/ucm162050.htm>.

## **Antiviral Resistance**

On July 28, 2009, Japan announced its third case of Tamiflu-resistant H1N1 flu. The total number of cases worldwide is six:

- Japan – (3)
- Canada – (1)
- Denmark – (1)
- Hong Kong – (1)

Antiviral medications continue to be effective notwithstanding the six cases noted above. CDC guidance on antiviral medication can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/recommendations.htm>

## **H1N1 Supplemental Funding**

Health & Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced on July 10, 2009 that \$350 million in grants will be distributed nationwide to help states prepare for the 2009 novel H1N1 influenza virus. Public Health Emergency Response (PHER) grants account for \$260 million, with the remaining \$90 million in Hospital Preparedness (HP) grants. Nevada will receive \$2,134,789 in PHER grant funds and \$737,005 in HP grant funds.

PHER funds help state/local public health departments conduct public health preparedness activities including:

- Planning for vaccination campaigns
- Improving influenza surveillance and investigations
- Increasing laboratory capacity and capability
- Implementing strategies to reduce human exposure to the novel 2009 H1N1 virus

HP funds help hospital/healthcare systems ability to develop and implement public health preparedness activities including:

- Healthcare workforce vaccination campaigns
- Healthcare employee workplace policies
- Enhancement of healthcare system capacity/capability for patient care
- Develop and implement plans for alternate care sites (patient care outside of hospital setting)

## **Influenza Prevention**

These actions will help protect you and others against seasonal and H1N1 influenza:

- Get a yearly seasonal influenza shot. This will offer protection against seasonal influenza, but not novel H1N1
- A H1N1 vaccine is being developed as an option for prevention of novel H1N1 infection
- Cough or sneeze into your sleeve, not into your hands. If you do use your hands, make sure to use a tissue and throw it in the trash immediately 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
- Stay at home if you are sick and limit contact with others so they do not get infected

## **West Nile Virus Activity**

As of July 31, 2009, there have been 5 cases of West Nile virus (WNV) reported in Nevada. All cases are in Clark County. The number of human cases associated with WNV in Nevada is updated every Friday throughout the WNV season at [http://health.nv.gov/WestNileVirus\\_Activity.htm](http://health.nv.gov/WestNileVirus_Activity.htm)

Information provided by the Animal Disease and Food Safety Laboratory:

Positive WNV mosquito pools: Clark County: zip codes 89107, 89103, 89011, 89119

Equine: one positive horse located in Clark County

Positive Western Equine Encephalitis (WEE) mosquito pool: Douglas County

## **West Nile Virus Prevention**

These actions will help protect you and others against West Nile virus:

- Avoid mosquito bites
  - Wear long sleeve shirts, long pants and socks
  - Use insect repellent containing DEET (look for N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide) on exposed skin when outdoors
  - Use insect repellent according to directions
- Mosquito-proof your home
  - Install or repair window and door screens
  - Drain standing water so mosquitoes do not have a place to breed
  - Empty water from buckets, cans, pools covers, flower pots and other items
- For additional animal information:
  - Call the Nevada Department of Agriculture at 775-353-3718