



Sandusky County Department of Public Health

"Serving Fremont, Clyde and All of Rural Sandusky County"

David G. Pollick, MA and Ed
Health Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Public Health Officials Meet

Local Officials met this morning at the Sandusky County Health Department to discuss the details and facts regarding the recent H1N1 (Swine Flu) outbreak and how it affects Sandusky County.

There continue to be no confirmed cases in Sandusky County at this time, but local officials discussed the protocol that would occur if there was such an event. The Sandusky County Health Department's Director of Nursing, Dawn Mason provided those in attendance with the updated case definition as well as testing procedures. The Sandusky County Health Department will provide coordination of any tests that need to be sent on to the Ohio Department of Health. The Health Department is working closely with local physicians and hospitals to expedite any suspected cases that occur locally.

The group again reinforced the fact that this is NOT a food borne illness. Swine flu cannot be contracted by eating pork products. As with all newly emerging flu strains, no vaccine has yet been developed.

General Offices and Clinics
2000 Countryside Drive
Fremont, Ohio 43420
(419) 334-6377
FAX (419) 334-6380



Home Care Programs
2000 Countryside Drive
Fremont, Ohio 43420
(419) 334-6191

www.sanduskycohd.org

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER/PROVIDER

Symptoms of the swine flu virus include:

- Fever (greater than 100 degrees)
- Sore throat
- Cough
- Stuffy nose
- Chills
- Headache and body aches
- Fatigue

The Sandusky County Health Department is supporting the Center for Disease Control's (CDC) recommendation that states, "Persons who experience influenza-like-illness and wish to seek medical care should contact their health care providers to report illness (by telephone or other remote means) before seeking care at a clinic, physician's office, or hospital. Persons who have difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, or are believed to be severely ill, should seek immediate medical attention."

Recommendations from the Ohio Department of Health and the CDC include:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash 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.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you get sick with influenza, CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.

Local officials will continue to meet regularly to ensure that the health and safety needs of all Sandusky County residents are met. For further information you can visit www.odh.ohio.gov or call 1-866-800-1404.