

EPI Update for Friday, October 2, 2009
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **Public Influenza Hotline Established**
- **Weekly 2009 H1N1 Influenza Update**
- **2009 H1N1 Influenza Co-infections with Bacterial Pneumonias**
- **Timing of Seasonal and 2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccination**
- **Meeting Announcements and Training Opportunities**

Public Influenza Hotline Established

A toll-free Influenza Hotline has been established to answer questions from the public about seasonal flu and 2009 H1N1 influenza: **800-447-1985**.

Weekly 2009 H1N1 Influenza Update

The Iowa influenza activity level has been increased to regional; laboratory-confirmed 2009 H1N1 influenza has been seen in every region of the state. However, outbreaks have not yet been reported in every region. Activity continues to be highest in people ages 5 to 24. The mean age for the 13 confirmed hospitalizations that have occurred since 9/1/2009 is 20 years of age. A total of three deaths have been reported in Iowa due to 2009 H1N1. Two have occurred in the past month.

Activity is significantly and steadily increasing in Iowa's schools, outpatient health care provider settings, and hospitals. Since the beginning of September, the activity pattern of 2009 H1N1 is similar to that seen in more severe seasonal influenza seasons.

2009 H1N1 Influenza Co-infections with Bacterial Pneumonias

A new report confirms the risk of bacterial lung co-infections with 2009 H1N1 influenza. Twenty-two of 77 (29 percent) H1N1 influenza cases had evidence of bacterial co-infection, 10 cases with *S. pneumoniae*, seven with *S. aureus*, six with *S. pyogenes*, two with *S. mitis* and one with *H. influenzae*. Four cases involved multiple pathogens. This underscores the importance for both children and adults to be up-to-date on all the recommended bacterial vaccines such as the pneumococcal vaccine. To view the full report, go to www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5838a4.htm?s_cid=mm5838a4_e.

Timing of Seasonal and 2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccination

It's likely that some people will need to be vaccinated for seasonal influenza vaccine about the same time that the 2009 H1N1 vaccine. Below are key points to remember when both vaccines are being used:

- You can administer both the inactivated seasonal and the inactivated H1N1 influenza vaccines at the same visit (using separate syringes

and different anatomical sites) or at any time before or after each other.

- You can administer the inactivated seasonal and live H1N1 influenza vaccines together or at any time before or after each other.
- You can administer the live seasonal and inactivated H1N1 influenza vaccines together or at any time before or after each other.
- **DO NOT** administer both the live attenuated seasonal and the live attenuated H1N1 influenza vaccines at the same visit. If giving both as live vaccines, they should be separated by at least 4 weeks.
- Two doses of 2009 H1N1 vaccine is recommended for children 9 and under. The second dose should be separated from the first dose by 4 weeks. However, if given at least 21 days later, the second dose can be considered valid.

For more information on flu vaccines, visit
www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/flu_vaccine.asp .

Meeting Announcements and Training Opportunities

1. Next week's Disease Epidemiology and Prevention XIII (2009 Fall Epi Update XIII) will be on Tuesday, October 6 in Creston. A brochure and registration information is available at www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/common/pdf/cade/2009_fall_update.pdf.
2. Iowa's Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (I-CASH) and the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health, (UI College of Public Health), will host the Midwest Rural and Agricultural Safety and Health Forum Nov. 18-19 at Stoney Creek Inn in Johnston, IA. For forum details and registration information, contact Eileen Fisher at 319-335-4224 or visit www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash/programs/mrash/2009.
3. The Iowa Department of Public Health, Upper Midwest Center for Public Health Preparedness and Safeguard Iowa Partnership will present a free Web cast to provide the latest information related to the upcoming influenza season to provide specific recommendations and guidelines for businesses.

The Web cast will be offered three times in October:

- October 8 (1:00 to 3:00 p.m.)
- October 21 (3:00 to 5:00 p.m.)
- October 27 (9:00 to 11:00 a.m.)

To register, visit www.safeguardiowa.org/events/view/31/55.

Have a healthy and happy week!

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800-362-2736