

From: Gregory Hall [mailto:ghall@hhcorp.org]
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2009 3:33 PM
Subject: MCHD Meeting Notes Reference Swine Influenza Outbreak

Good afternoon Public Safety & Health Officials;

The Marion County Health Department called an emergency (Swine Influenza) meeting this morning of internal staff (consisting of; Epidemiologist, Doctors, Nurses, PIO, Environmentalist, Emergency Preparedness, Infectious Control Specialist, etc) to discuss the current health advisory situation and to begin implementing preventive measures for the public health response in Marion County for this potential outbreak. The following items were discussed below:

1. Dr. Caine provided information to the group referencing a conference call held yesterday with Dr. Monroe (ISDH) and CDC information. The conversation discussed Sunday's declaration by the U.S. Department of Health and Humans Services (HHS) of a public health emergency related to the outbreak of swine flu in Mexico and the cases reported in the United States. Indiana is considered a high priority State to receive SNS stockpile, which can be transported to the region within 24-48 hours. One of the primary reasons for transporting the SNS to Indiana is largely due to the high volume of visitors in the metropolitan area for the Mini-Marathon and INDY 500 Race.
2. Dr. Caine mentioned to maintain a situational awareness for reporting increased spikes or clusters in emergency rooms surveillance programs and data collection abnormalities within the community health facilities. Local health officials are in constant contact with the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Indianapolis and Marion County officials. The agencies are working together to provide the efficient sharing of critical health information and community resources related to Swine Flu.
3. Dr. Caine announced MCHD will release a high priority letter to city government, public safety agencies, all hospitals and community health centers, universities and schools, businesses and the public - addressing Marion County Health Department's (MCHD) public health response to the current health advisory issued by CDC and Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH). All planning and media messages delivered will be coordinated with Marion County Emergency Management Division and City of Indianapolis Public Safety Department.
4. The Marion County Health Department and Indiana State Department of Health remind the public to follow basic precautionary measures to prevent the spread of a cold, influenza, or any infectious disease, including:
 - Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it. Cough or sneeze into your sleeve, rather than your hands, if a tissue is not available.
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are also effective.
 - Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
5. There will be two conference calls today from IDHS at 1400 hours and ISDH 1430 hours. We (MCHD) will participate in both calls.
6. There were many Swine Flu informational documents passed out to the group. Many discussions on how hospital's should handle infected patients and their family member. Instructions for personal protective equipment, masks, and CDC's recommendation / procedures for those infected should be followed.
7. MCHD will set up a call center for those concerned citizens who have frequently asked questions (FAQ). The center should be active Tuesday, April 28, 2009.
8. MCHD will host a local emergency public health meeting to discuss pro-active measures in response to the Swine Influenza Outbreak. The following key stakeholders will be invited to this meeting: Mayor, CCC President and City agencies, ISDH, IDHS, Universities and Schools, Airport Authority, Indygo, Hospitals and Community Health Care centers, INDY 500 officials, Business community, Hotel Association, and the Red Cross. More information, including time and location, will follow shortly.