

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER REMINDS HOOSIERS PANDEMIC
H1N1 INFLUENZA IS STILL CIRCULATING**

INDIANAPOLIS—State Health Commissioner Judy Monroe, M.D. says the pandemic H1N1 influenza virus is still circulating in Indiana and people should continue to take preventative steps to stay healthy and limit the spread of the virus.

Dr. Monroe reports a resident of Elkhart County has died from complications related to pandemic H1N1 influenza, the fourth death linked to this novel flu virus in Indiana. The Indiana State Department of Health will not be releasing any other information about the individual for confidentiality reasons.

“It is very unfortunate but not unexpected we would have additional deaths this summer,” said Dr. Monroe. “The best thing the public can do right now is continue to take preventative measures and practice good hygiene. Doing so will help you avoid becoming sick and spreading illness.”

To stay healthy, follow the three C's:

- Clean – properly wash your hands frequently
- Cover – cover your cough and sneeze
- Contain – contain your germs by staying home if you are sick.

Dr. Monroe also urges parents to be prepared for the possibility of schools closings during the fall flu season by having a plan for alternative child care.

In preparation for the fall flu season and the possibility of mass vaccinations, the Indiana State Department of Health and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) are working diligently with local health departments and Emergency Management Agencies (EMA). Nearly 180 public health officials and EMA representatives from around the state met on July 27 in Orange County and another is scheduled for August 4 in Wabash County.

Learn more about pandemic influenza and how to prepare at: www.flu.gov .