



CT Department of  
Emergency Management  
and Homeland Security



M. Jodi Rell, Governor



CT Department of  
Public Health

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT H1N1 Situation Report

Report Period: December 18, 2009 to December 23, 2009

The Connecticut Departments of Public Health (DPH) and Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) are working together to provide a weekly CT H1N1 Situation Report. This report provides a brief overview of the H1N1 situation in CT, as well as on the national and international levels.

*NOTE: According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) the start of the 2009-10 influenza season began Sunday August 30, 2009. All statistics provided are based on this calendar.*

### I. CONNECTICUT SITUATION SUMMARY

#### **Department of Public Health (DPH)**

##### **CT Epidemiology/Infectious Disease Section Update:**

- Preliminary influenza data reviewed from the week ending December 19, 2009 reveals that a continued decreasing level of influenza activity is still being observed in Connecticut as measured by laboratory confirmed test results and syndromic surveillance system activity.
- Although statewide influenza activity is decreasing, it remains elevated in many areas, resulting in a continuation of our national flu activity classification at the “regional” level for this week.
- The 2009 influenza A (H1N1) virus remains the predominate subtype circulating within Connecticut, with only a few specimens of seasonal influenza [type B and influenza A (H3N2) isolates] identified to date.

##### **Vaccine distribution update:**

- On December 18 and 21, MedImmune notified CDC and FDA that the potency of 13 lots of monovalent 2009 (H1N1) nasal spray vaccine had decreased below a pre-specified limit or were at risk of falling below that limit in the next week. This slight decrease in vaccine potency is not expected to have an impact on the protective response to vaccination.
- People who received vaccine from the recalled lots do not need to take any action.
- Children and adults aged 10 years and older who received the vaccine do not need any further doses of vaccine. As is recommended for all 2009 H1N1 vaccines, all children younger than 10 years old should get the recommended two doses of 2009 H1N1 vaccine approximately a month apart. Therefore, children younger than 10 years old who have only received one dose of vaccine thus far should still receive a second dose of 2009 H1N1 vaccine.
- Connecticut is in the process of notifying all H1N1 vaccine providers with information on the recall, with a particular emphasis on those providers who received recalled lots.
- Vaccine is now being made available to all Connecticut residents.
- To date, Connecticut has received 1,106,300 doses of the H1N1 vaccine.
- Big box retailers are now part of the H1N1 vaccine distribution network in Connecticut.

##### **CT Public Health Laboratory Update:**

Total H1N1 positive since 8/30/2009: 481

### **Local Update**

- CT DPH and local health departments (LHDs) are making H1N1 clinic dates and times available to American Lung Association sites as there are no longer priority groups and restrictions.
- There is some local concern about the decrease in interest of folks wanting the vaccine.
- Ledge Light Health District held a public clinic Monday, 12/21, with over 1000 people.
- Local Health Districts are hosting the last clinics Wednesday, 12/23, before the holiday break.
- There will be a conference call Wednesday, 12/23, to discuss with local partners the vaccination of more school age children in January.

### **Schools**

- No schools closed this week.

### **Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS)**

- Current DEMHS activation level — MONITORING (information review and sharing, and outreach mode). H1N1 incident information has been posted for state and local public safety officials on Web EOC.
- DEMHS Regional Offices continue to receive requests from local Emergency Management Directors for CERT and MRC activation approvals to assist flu clinics.

### **Other State Agencies**

- No report.

### **Public Information**

The DPH H1N1 Hotline is now open between the hours of 9 AM – 5 PM, Monday through Friday. The hotline will be closed Thursday, December 24 and reopen Monday, December 28, 2009. DPH Call center volume: Total number of calls into the DPH Hotline since inception (Oct 5<sup>th</sup>): 9,275

- 211 Infoline: 101 calls were received by 211 during the week of December 13 to December 20, 2009.
- Current public messaging:
  - Vaccine is now available for all people of Connecticut who would like to be vaccinated.
  - While we continue to see a decline in H1N1 cases, we expect to continue to see cases of H1N1 over the next few weeks.
  - Vaccination is the single, most effective way to protect you from the flu and we encourage people to get vaccinated.
- Nearly 40 public H1N1 clinics across Connecticut have been posted to the CT Flu Watch website as well as the Google Flu Locator run by CDC, in concert with the American Lung Association.

## **II. NEW ENGLAND STATES/FEMA REGION A (including NY&NJ) H1N1 UPDATE SUMMARY**

- The Northeast is also showing a decrease in flu activity with only Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and New York still reporting “widespread” activity. Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Vermont are now reporting lower “regional” level, while Massachusetts and Pennsylvania are reporting still lower “local” activity.
- Massachusetts - More than 2 million doses of H1N1 vaccine have now been received in Massachusetts. State health officials have asked their local public health partners to begin holding large-scale public flu clinics after the New Year, which will be open to all residents regardless of whether or not they are in a priority group.
- On Dec 21, 2009 the Vermont Department of Health announced that there is now enough vaccine in the state to begin offering it to anyone older than 6 months who wants to be vaccinated against the 2009 H1N1 flu.

### III. NATIONAL H1N1 SITUATION UPDATE SUMMARY

- As a demonstration of support for the on-going plan to vaccinate against H1N1, President Obama received his H1N1 vaccination on Sunday, December 20, 2009.
- HHS senior officials provide an update and give perspective on the H1N1 outbreak in and interactive H1N1 timeline - [www.flu.gov/about/h1n1yearreview](http://www.flu.gov/about/h1n1yearreview).
- The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (7.8%) remains above the epidemic threshold (7.2%) for the tenth consecutive week. (Source: HHS/CDC)
- Of the specimens that tested positive for influenza, over 99% were the 2009 H1N1 virus. (Source: HHS/CDC)
- U.S. Geographic Spread Weekly Trend Level, as of 18 December 2009 11 states reported geographically widespread influenza activity; 20 states reported regional influenza activity; 11 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia reported local influenza activity; Eight states, and the Virgin Islands reported sporadic activity. Guam is reporting no activity (Source HHS/CDC)
- States that have declared a Public Health Emergency Awaiting updates Seven States: FL, VA, WI, IA, MD, NY, IA, (Source: HHS/CDC)
- States that have declared an Emergency Declaration/Proclamation 13 States and One Territory – IL, CA, ME, NE, NY, OH, TX, GA, LA, MA, MI, MN, NC and American Samoa (Source: DHS/FEMA)

### IV. INTERNATIONAL H1N1 UPDATE SUMMARY

WHO Weekly update - 18 December 2009 -- As of 13 December 2009, worldwide more than 208 countries and overseas territories or communities have reported laboratory confirmed cases of pandemic influenza H1N1 2009, including at least 10582 deaths

### V. NON-H1N1 INFORMATION

No report.

Distribution List: CT City, Town & Tribal Nation Chief Elected Officials/Chief Executive Officers  
CT City, Town & Tribal Nation Emergency Management Directors  
CT City, Town & Tribal Nation Health Department/Districts  
CT Emergency Management Association (CEMA) – Executive Board  
CT City, Town & Tribal Nation Public Safety – Police & Fire Chiefs  
Regional Planning Organizations/Agencies, Council of Governments/Elected Officials  
DEMHS Coordinating Council  
Regional Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Councils  
State of Connecticut Emergency Operation Center (EOC) Liaisons  
Security Communications Access Network (SCAN)

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December 23, 2009

Have a safe and happy holiday!

