



## **Swine Flu Update - April 30, 2009 at 7:00 pm**

While the situation is concerning it is important to remember that healthy people, with no flu symptoms and not in need of medical care, should stay away from medical offices, clinics and hospitals. Please take common sense precautions like covering your cough and washing your hands.

### **Local Situation**

As of April 30, 2009, the Public Health Department Laboratory has identified probable 6 cases of swine flu cases and 1 suspect case. Besides the 4 cases previously reported:

- o 5<sup>th</sup> case is 6 years old male, has not been hospitalized, and is recovering at home
- o 6<sup>th</sup> case is 5 years old male, has not been hospitalized, and is recovering at home
- o 7<sup>th</sup> case is suspect and is being re-tested

All three of these cases are young kids and have potentially infected other children at their respective schools. After close evaluation of these 3 new cases and based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Santa Clara Health Officer, working with the respective schools, decided to close the following schools:

- o Delphi Academy & Elan Espirit Preschool, 890 Pomeroy Avenue, Santa Clara are closed from April 30, 2009, reopening May 11, 2009;
- o Challenger School, 730 Camina Escuela, San Jose is closed from April 30, 2009, reopening May 11, 2009;
- o Branham High School was closed yesterday, April 29, 2009, reopening May 6, 2009.
- o Rucker Elementary in unincorporated in San Martin is closed April 30, 2009 and until further notice, pending a determination on its suspect case.

The Santa Clara County Public Health Laboratory ran PCR tests on the submitted specimens. The samples were subsequently identified as influenza A but the lab was unable to match them to any human sub-type. As a result, the specimens were identified as "probable" swine flu and have been sent to the CDC for confirmation.

The Public Health Department continues to conduct local surveillance, monitor the situation closely, and inform the public, medical community and other local agencies about the outbreak of swine flu.

On April 29, 2009, the County Executive's Office announced a Santa Clara County State of Emergency. This will allow Santa Clara County to access funds and supplies more effectively to address the swine flu outbreak.

### **National Situation\***

On April 29, 2009, the World Health Organization raised its pandemic alert for swine flu to level 5, the second highest level. As defined by the World Health Organization, a phase 5 alert means there is sustained transmission among people in at least two countries. Once the virus shows effective transmission in two

different regions of the world, a full pandemic outbreak (level 6) would be declared, meaning a global epidemic of a new and deadly disease.

As of April 27<sup>th</sup>, the CDC issued a travel warning which recommends that U.S. travelers avoid all nonessential travel to Mexico. If you must travel to an area that reported cases of swine flu please refer the CDC website for more information at <http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/contentSwineFluMexico.aspx>

For regular updates about the swine flu situation and instructions and checklists for preparing for an influenza emergency please visit the Santa Clara County web site at [www.sccgov.org](http://www.sccgov.org) and click on the Swine Flu Update.

For more information about swine flu, visit [www.cdc.gov/swineflu](http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu)

For information in Spanish, visit [http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/espanol/swine\\_espanol.html](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/espanol/swine_espanol.html)