

**University Health Advisory
(August 3, 2009)**

Faculty, Staff and Students,

We continue to monitor through the World Health Organization (WHO), Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) H1N1, formerly known as Swine Flu, related events. Below is supplemental information and helpful links:

CDC advises the seasonal flu vaccine is unlikely to provide protection against novel H1N1 influenza; H1N1 vaccine is currently in production and may be ready for the public in the fall; H1N1 vaccine is not intended to replace the seasonal flu vaccine – it is intended to be used along-side seasonal flu vaccine.

CDC does not anticipate a shortage of H1N1 vaccine, although initially the vaccine may only be available in limited quantities. Therefore, on July 29, 2009, CDC identified the populations most at risk for severe illness and recommends prioritized vaccination to, 1) pregnant women, 2) household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age, 3) healthcare and emergency medical services personnel, 4) all people from 6 months through 24 years of age, 5) persons aged 25 through 64 who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza.

SHS reports 0 suspected cases in health services, per Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Surveillance Screening Tool; facemasks available for students with ILI.

Good Health Habits for Prevention:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Frequent hand washing with soap and water (wash hands for at least 15 seconds); **watch podcast.**
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizers to clean hands, if soap and water not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If sick, stay home from work or school and limit contact with others.
- Eat healthy and get plenty of rest.

Helpful Links:

<http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/> (CDC)

<http://www.scdhec.gov/flu/swine-flu.htm> (DHEC)

<http://www.pandemicflu.gov> (Department of Health and Human Services)

If you are experiencing flu like symptoms, please contact your primary health care provider. Students are advised to contact Student Health Services.