



Pride in Service with Integrity

Broward Sheriff's Office
Institute for Criminal Justice Studies
"Teaching Best Practices"

TAB #09-028
DATE 04/27/2009

Training Advisory Bulletin

READ AT ROLL CALL-ALL SHIFTS.

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CDC Information-Employee Information-SWINE FLU

- Recent developments concerning the "H1N1" "SWINE" FLU have necessitated the distribution of educational and preventive information concerning our specific risk assessment as providers. The intent of this information is to provide identification when encountering a potential subject or patient.
- When considering the possibility of situations consisting of potential H1N1 patient contact, ALL personnel should review the following information, specifically the key elements.
- Additional informational links from the CDC and Homeland Security can be found on the accompanying page.
- The key elements are:
 1. There are NO index cases in Florida for H1N1.
 2. The signs and symptoms are:
 - Fever , body aches, headache, extreme fatigue, runny or stuffy nose;
 - Nausea, vomiting and diarrhea, predominantly in children.
 3. Contagion is person-to-person by contact with body fluids; specifically fluid droplets from coughing or sneezing of infected people. Infected patients may infect others one day prior to and up to five days after symptoms onset.
 4. Universal precautions (gloves and mask) are essential, in addition to hand washing to prevent contagion when exposed to this patient type.
 5. Most infected patients will recover uneventfully. Specific populations may be susceptible to more severe infections such as the very young, the very old, patients who are immunocompromised (e.g. steroid therapy) or immunosuppressed (e.g. A.I.D.S.).
 6. The Flu vaccination (injections or nasal spray) may prevent the infection. Some antiviral agents may shorten the duration and mitigate the severity of the infection.
 7. Patients who are identified as "contagious" should be transported to the nearest hospital.
 8. In order to provide limited exposure to the receiving hospital staff, hospital pre-arrival notification of the patient's condition is considered mandatory.
 9. Always remember to conduct a complete decontamination of yourself and your unit after each patient encounter.
- The CDC is advising all emergency personnel to utilize the following public health assessment guidelines, specifically when encountering patients at points-of-entry including the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport and Port Everglades:
- **What to Look for**
 1. Severe diarrhea, OR
 2. Fever (100°F or 38°C) and rash, or swollen lymph glands, or yellow skin/eyes, or difficulty breathing, or persistent cough, or paralysis of recent onset, or decreased consciousness, or unexplained bleeding
 3. Death, OR 2 persons with the same signs and symptoms
 4. For further details please see: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/investigation.htm>