



# COLLIN COUNTY

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FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

May 5, 2009

## HEALTH ADVISORY: H1N1 Influenza (Swine Flu)

(McKINNEY, Texas) – As of late Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009, the H1N1 (swine flu) case count for Collin County is:

Confirmed Cases: 3  
Probable Cases: 4

Collin County Health Care Services (CCHCS) would like to share the following guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control that was released Tuesday afternoon:

- As of today, school closures are not advised for a suspected or confirmed case of novel influenza A (H1N1) and, in general, are not advised unless there is a magnitude of faculty or student absenteeism that interferes with the school's ability to function.
- Schools that were closed based on previous interim CDC guidance related to this outbreak may reopen.
- Students, faculty or staff with influenza-like illness (fever with a cough or sore throat) should stay home and not attend school or go into the community except to seek medical care for at least 7 days even if symptoms resolve sooner.
- Students, faculty and staff who are still sick 7 days after they become ill should continue to stay home from school until at least 24 hours after symptoms have resolved.
- Students, faculty and staff who appear to have an influenza-like illness at arrival or become ill during the school day should be isolated promptly in a room separate from other students and sent home.
- Parents and guardians should monitor their school-aged children, and faculty and staff should self-monitor every morning for symptoms of influenza-like illness.
- Ill students should not attend alternative child care or congregate in settings other than school.
- School administrators should communicate regularly with local public health officials to obtain guidance about reporting of influenza-like illnesses in the school.
- Schools can help serve as a focus for educational activities aimed at promoting ways to reduce the spread of influenza, including hand hygiene and cough etiquette.
- Students, faculty and staff should stringently follow sanitary measures to reduce the spread of influenza, including covering their nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing

or sneezing (or coughing or sneezing into their sleeve if a tissue isn't available), frequently washing hands with soap and water, or using hand sanitizer if hand washing with soap and water is not possible.

For a complete copy of the above-referenced document, please see the following link: [http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/K12\\_dismissal.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/K12_dismissal.htm). For up to the moment information on this public health concern, please visit: [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu) and [www.dshs.state.tx.us/swineflu](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/swineflu). CCHCS health advisories and updates can be viewed at: <http://www.co.collin.tx.us/>.

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