

## Swine Flu Update – May 1, 2009

**Summary:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH) and the Bristol-Burlington Health District (BBHD) continue to actively respond to the expanding outbreak of swine flu (H1N1). Currently the focus is on reducing person-to-person infection and providing education to the public and school officials, health care providers and the public.

**Current Status:** As of 11:00 a.m. today (May 1), the CDC has 141 laboratory confirmed cases of swine flu infection in nineteen states. There has been one death. At this time, there are no confirmed cases of the swine flu in Connecticut. While six probable cases have been identified in Connecticut, none are in Bristol or Burlington.

“Probable” means that the culture taken by a health care provider was identified by the State of Connecticut Laboratory as having some of the characteristics of the swine influenza A infection. In order to have a “confirmed” case, the CDC must do additional laboratory testing. All probable case cultures from Connecticut residents have been sent for further investigation to the CDC.

**Treatment:** There is no vaccine currently available to protect humans from the swine flu. However, the federal government is working on developing a vaccine for this particular type of flu. There are some medications available for persons ill with the flu. People who are sick with flu like symptoms such contact their health care provider. If you do not have a provider, you should call 2-1-1 for information about health care facilities in the area.

**Prevention:** In addition to washing your hands, covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, and staying away from others who are ill, you should stay informed.

Updated information can be found on the following websites:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>

World Health Organization: <http://www.who.int/en/>

Connecticut Department of Public Health [www.ct.gov/dph](http://www.ct.gov/dph)

Bristol-Burlington Health District: [www.bbhd.org](http://www.bbhd.org)

L. Abrahamson, May 1, 2009 3:30 p.m.



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