



**MLS: Laboratory Update #9**  
**H1N1 Novel Influenza - Probable Second Case in**  
**Minnesota**  
**May 1, 2009**



**\*\*Please forward this to all appropriate personnel within your institution\*\***

This is an update from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Minnesota Laboratory System (MLS). This message is being sent to MLS laboratory contacts serving Minnesota residents. You are not required to reply to this message.

**H1N1 Novel Influenza - Probable Second Case in Minnesota**

Excerpt from MDH news release, to read entire document, please go to:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/news/>

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) today announced that it is sending a lab sample from another individual to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to be tested for the H1N1 novel influenza virus. The individual, from Isanti County, did not require hospitalization and is at home expecting to make a full recovery. MDH epidemiologists are investigating whether there is a link to Mexico or to other areas where cases have occurred. This case does not involve a school.

MDH is characterizing the case as "probable," meaning that the MDH lab has identified the virus as type A influenza, but the strain cannot be confirmed using lab tests currently available to MDH. Additional testing by CDC will be needed to determine if the individual had the unusual new strain of influenza that has made people sick in 11 countries, including the U.S.

The department sent its first sample of probable H1N1 novel influenza virus to the CDC on April 29. The virus was confirmed as the H1N1 novel virus on April 30.

To date, the department has tested 224 samples and more than 30 are scheduled to be tested. One case has been confirmed as positive for the H1N1 novel virus, and another is considered probable. Within the next several days, CDC will be sending the specific laboratory tests for this new strain to MDH and other public health laboratories. This will facilitate confirmatory testing in Minnesota.

**QUESTIONS**

If you have laboratory questions, please call Susan Fuller (MDH Virology Laboratory Unit Leader) at 651-201-5255, or Paula Snippes at 651-201-5581.

**Additional Information**

We will continue to update you as information becomes available. Please visit the MLS website at [www.health.state.mn.us/mls](http://www.health.state.mn.us/mls) for continuing updates under "Hot Topics".

We recommend that you continue to check:

CDC website at: [www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/index.htm)

MDH H1N1 Novel Influenza site at: [www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/flu/swine/index.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/flu/swine/index.html)

Thank you for your continued vigilance in this matter.

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