



**MLS: Laboratory Update #14**  
**MDH-PHL Now Conducting Confirmatory Novel**  
**H1N1 Influenza A Testing**  
**May 8, 2009**



**\*\*Please forward** this message to any CLINIC or PHYSICIAN'S OFFICE with which you are affiliated\*\*

**This is the fax version of an email that was sent out on Friday, late afternoon.**

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. Please reply if appropriate, see below.

**The following is from the current MDH news release:** <http://www.health.state.mn.us/news/>

**Minnesota Department of Health now conducting final tests for H1N1 novel influenza virus**  
***MDH also reports first hospitalized case***

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention today validated the Minnesota Department of Health to use new testing methodology to confirm cases of the H1N1 novel influenza virus in Minnesota. Previously, the department needed to send probable samples to the CDC for final confirmation.

The department has already used the new methodology on all of the state's pending probable cases. With CDC's validation in place, all of these probable cases have now been re-classified as confirmed. This means Minnesota now has 21 confirmed cases, including three new cases identified today from the Twin Cities area. One of the new cases, a child, was hospitalized but is now at home and expected to make a full recovery.

Now that MDH is conducting final testing for the virus, the department will no longer report probable cases.

Because the H1N1 virus appears to be behaving like seasonal influenza at this time, MDH officials expect to see more cases of the virus in schools, businesses and communities across the state.

**Additional Information**

MLS website at [www.health.state.mn.us/mls](http://www.health.state.mn.us/mls) under "Hot Topics".

CDC H1N1 Novel Influenza website: [www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/index.htm)

MDH H1N1 Novel Influenza website: [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.

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