MLS: Laboratory Update
Influenza Audio-conference for MLS Laboratories on October 16
September 22, 2009

Purpose of this Message:
To inform you of the MDH Influenza Teleconference for MLS laboratories.

Date and Time of Audio-conference:
Friday, October 16, 2009; 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Audio-conference Description:
This presentation will provide an overview of the variety of MDH surveillance programs in place for the current influenza season, and how labs contribute to them. Also, a situation update will be provided regarding the plans for response by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to the current influenza season. Current specimen acceptance criteria, MDH-Public Health Laboratory testing algorithm, and results reporting processes will be discussed. Time for questions will be allotted at the end of the presentation.

Objectives:
- Describe the variety of surveillance systems in place at MDH for monitoring influenza in the State Of Minnesota
- Prepare the laboratory community for response to the current influenza season
- Apprise laboratorians on the current specimen acceptance criteria for influenza testing
- Describe the current influenza testing algorithm being used by the MDH – Public Health Laboratory

To Register:
Only ONE person from each facility should reply to this email with:
(1) name, email address, and phone number of contact person
(2) name of facility
(3) approximate number of listeners at each facility for the call

Call-in instructions and pass-code will be provided to the facility contact. We are using this information to determine how many phone lines need to be ordered, so we are requesting only one phone line per facility, unless it cannot be avoided, in which case, please indicate number of lines needed.

Archived Audio-conference:
This audio-conference will be archived and posted on the MLS website within 1 week of the call, www.health.state.mn.us/mls under "Education and Training" under "Audio-conferences and Webinars".

Thank You,

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<u>Please forward**</u> this message to all appropriate personnel within your institution and any CLINIC or PHYSICIAN'S OFFICE with which you are affiliated**

This is an update from the Minnesota Department of Health – Public Health Laboratory (MDH-PHL) 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.

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