



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

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SAN DIEGO COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY REPORTS ONE NEW CASE OF SWINE FLU *Total Cases Now Stand at Four in San Diego County; Eight Nationwide*

The San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) reports that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has confirmed an additional case of human infection with swine influenza A (H1N1) in a San Diego County resident. The new case is a 7-year-old boy.

That brings to four the number of San Diego residents with swine flu. The previous cases are a 10-year-old male and a 54-year-old male and his 16-year-old daughter. All four San Diego cases have recovered. Nationwide, the total number of cases of human infection stands at eight.

"It is anticipated that we will see additional cases of human infection with swine influenza because we have heightened our surveillance and put area healthcare providers on alert," said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., San Diego County Public Health Officer. "We continue to work closely with the CDC, the California Department of Public Health and the Imperial County Public Health Department to investigate the source of these cases."

While sporadic cases of swine flu have previously been seen in humans in the U.S., this strain of the swine flu has not been previously detected. The symptoms in these cases have been mild and are similar to regular influenza. Swine flu is a cause of respiratory disease in pigs. Most commonly, human cases of swine influenza happen when people are in close proximity to infected pigs, such as in pig production barns and livestock exhibits at fairs. Typically, the symptoms of swine influenza in people are similar to the symptoms of regular seasonal influenza infection and include fever, lethargy, coughing and lack of appetite.

"While there is concern about this new virus, I would like to stress that this is not a pandemic situation," said Wooten. "There is always a possibility that any new virus could lead to a pandemic, but at this time the World Health Organization has not determined that we have a pandemic."

San Diego County residents can call the County of San Diego Swine Influenza Information Line at (858) 715-2250.

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