

H1N1 Supplemental Funding – Phase II

An additional \$248 million in Public Health Emergency Response (PHER) Phase II funding is available to further accelerate planning for a national vaccination campaign for novel H1N1 influenza. These funds supplement the \$260 million provided in July (PHER – Phase I). Nevada will receive \$5,718,353 in federal funding from the following grants:

- \$ PHER – Phase II - \$2,846,559
- \$ PHER – Phase I - \$2,134,789
- \$ Hospital Preparedness - \$737,005

PHER – Phase I funding is divided into two focus areas:

- Focus Area 1 – Vaccination, Antiviral Distribution/Dispensing and Administration, Community Mitigation and Other Associated Pandemic Preparedness and Response Activities (\$1,601,092)
- Focus Area 2 – Laboratory, Epidemiology, Surveillance, and Other Associated Pandemic Preparedness and Response Activities (\$533,697)

PHER – Phase II funding is provided to augment Focus Area 1 activities. Focus Area 2 activities are not included in this additional funding.

Seasonal Influenza Activity

According to the CDC, for MMWR **week 31** (August 2-8, 2009), nationwide influenza activity decreased in the U.S.; however, higher than normal levels of influenza-like illness are being reported for this time of year.

There are 5 levels of influenza activity as defined by the CDC.

- **No Activity:** No laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza and no reported increase in the number of cases of ILI.
- **Sporadic:** Small numbers of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases or a single laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreak has been reported, but there is no increase in cases of ILI.
- **Local:** Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in a single region of the state.
- **Regional:** Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI and recent laboratory confirmed influenza in at least two but less than half the regions of the state with recent laboratory evidence of influenza in those regions.
- **Widespread:** Outbreaks of influenza or increases in ILI cases and recent laboratory-confirmed influenza in at least half the regions of the state with recent laboratory evidence of influenza in the state.

For MMWR week 31:

- 4 states reported **widespread** activity
- 10 states reported **regional** activity
- 10 states reported **local** activity
- 26 states reported **sporadic** activity
- 0 states reported **no activity**

Nevada has 5 reporting regions. For MMWR week 31, we are at “**regional**” influenza activity.

Information on influenza activity and surveillance can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>

New Nevada State Health Division Influenza Website- [flu.nv.gov](http://www.flu.nv.gov)

The Nevada State Health Division has launched the new flu website, making it very easy for the public to access information about seasonal flu and H1N1 (Swine) flu. Visit the website at: <http://www.flu.nv.gov/>

The newly established website will be updated on a regular basis, providing information from our federal, state and local partners. A ListServ is available on the new website. When you sign up for the ListServ, you will receive updated information, via email. The Health Division encourages everyone to provide input, as this website will continue to evolve throughout the upcoming months.

Pneumococcal Vaccine

Every flu season has the potential to cause a lot of illness, doctor's visits, hospitalizations and deaths. One way to help protect against severe illness during the regular flu season is to be vaccinated with a pneumococcal vaccine. While this vaccine does not protect from getting regular flu or H1N1 flu, it may decrease your chances of becoming severely ill should you become infected with the flu.

Currently there are two vaccines available, a 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23) and a 7-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV7). The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends a single dose of PPSV23 for all people 65 years and older and for persons 2-64 years of age with certain high-risk conditions. ACIP recommends PCV7 for all children less than 5 years. Information on ACIP Pneumococcal Vaccine Recommendations can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/pneumo/default.htm#vacc>

CDC Guidance/Toolkit for Businesses/Employers to Plan/Respond to 2009-2010 Influenza Season

On August 19, 2009, the CDC released new guidance for non-healthcare employers to assist in reducing the spread of seasonal influenza and 2009 H1N1 influenza in the workplace as well as to maintain business continuity during the 2009-2010 influenza season. They have also released a business communications toolkit to provide information and communication resources for businesses/employers to use for implementing recommendations provided in the new guidance.

The guidance can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/business/guidance/>

The toolkit can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/business/toolkit/>

West Nile Virus Activity

As of August 20, 2009, there have been 5 cases of West Nile virus (WNV) reported in Nevada. All cases are in Clark County. The number of human cases associated with WNV in Nevada is updated every Friday throughout the WNV season at: http://health.nv.gov/WestNileVirus_Activity.htm

Information provided by the Animal Disease and Food Safety Laboratory:

Mosquito pools tested: 252 – Two suspect pools: One from Washoe County and one from Esmeralda

West Nile Virus Prevention

These actions will help protect you and others against West Nile virus:

- Avoid mosquito bites
 - Wear long sleeve shirts, long pants and socks
 - Use insect repellent containing DEET (look for N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide) on exposed skin when outdoors
 - Use insect repellent according to directions
- Mosquito-proof your home
 - Install or repair window and door screens
 - Drain standing water so mosquitoes do not have a place to breed
 - Empty water from buckets, cans, pools covers, flower pots and other items
- For additional animal information:
 - Call the Nevada Department of Agriculture at 775-353-3718