

County of Erie

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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HEALTH ADVISORY #254 **SEPTEMBER 2, 2009** **HEALTH ADVISORY: H1N1 INFLUENZA (SWINE FLU) UPDATE FOR** **SCHOOLS GRADES K-12**

Please distribute immediately to School Superintendents, School Principals, School Nurses, Directors of Facilities and Maintenance, Daycare Providers and other appropriate school or childcare personnel.

Guidance for Schools

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has posted updated information for schools (grades K-12) for the fall flu season on their website: <http://www.flu.gov/professional/school/index.html>
- The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has issued revised guidance for schools (K-12) for the fall flu season (attached). The Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) recommends that schools review and implement this guidance for the fall flu season.

Attendance/Absenteeism Reporting Requests

The ECDOH Epidemiology Program is continuing its school surveillance program for the 2009-2010 school year. Please see the attached data collection tools and instructions.

- ECDOH requests that all districts/schools continue or begin reporting school absenteeism numbers, as well as numbers of students/faculty sent home due to illness for the 2009-2010 school year.
- Please continue to identify specific ILI (Influenza-like Illness) or ILI related details on your surveillance reports.
- Please continue to submit surveillance information to ECDOH Epidemiology Program as early as possible each day.
- ECDOH requests that each district/school evaluate the attendance procedures in place and determine the most appropriate mechanism of continued reporting to our office.
- ECDOH will continue to evaluate the active surveillance program on a local level and will provide you with updated information as it becomes available.

For additional information please visit: http://www.erie.gov/health/swine_flu.asp

Questions regarding this advisory should be directed to the ECDOH at (716) 858-7697 or DOH@erie.gov.



S-OIV School
Surveillance Form...



S-OIV School
Surveillance Form...



Active Surveillance
of Erie Co...



NYSDOH K-12
Guidance 08-31-09...

Health Category Definitions:

Health Alert FLASH: conveys the highest level of importance due to a large-scale, catastrophic public health emergency; warrants immediate action or attention

Health Alert Priority: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention to a health problem or situation

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary