



COUNTY OF KENOSHA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE GOOD HYGIENE PRACTICES

Recommendation Comes After First Wisconsin H1N1 (swine flu) Fatality

Kenosha – June 4, 2009 – The Kenosha County Division of Health continues to encourage good hygiene practices to help prevent the transmission of H1N1 (swine flu) – washing your hands, covering your cough, and staying home when you're sick to avoid infecting others. This comes as Wisconsin has its first death H1N1 in a Milwaukee County resident.

Every year, influenza claims the lives of as many as 700 Wisconsin citizens and this H1N1 virus is very similar to viruses that cause seasonal influenza. Influenza is especially dangerous for individuals with pre-existing conditions which put them at greater risk for complications. It has been reported the Milwaukee County death did have underlying medical conditions.

The Kenosha County Division of Health continues to investigate cases of H1N1 in the county. There are currently 38 confirmed cases of H1N1 (swine) flu in Kenosha County, but health officials maintain there are probably many more unreported cases. The H1N1 virus spreads by airborne transmission mainly through the coughs and sneezes of people who are sick with the virus, similar to seasonal influenza.

Symptoms of H1N1 flu include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people have reported diarrhea and vomiting as well.

For more information please contact the Kenosha County Division of Health at (262) 605-6700 or www.co.kenosha.wi.us/.

For more information about and H1N1 (swine flu): <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>.

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