



10/12/2009

***Swine Flu H1N1 (SIV) Infections - Update # 8 May 4, 2009***  
**Guidance for Outpatient Care Providers**  
**EDUCATION (Staff and Patients)**

- Information about SWINE FLU H1N1.
  - [www.co.mason.wa.us](http://www.co.mason.wa.us)
  - [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/)
- The best way to prevent disease transmission is to cover cough, wash hands, stay home when ill, and avoid crowds. Practice good hygiene.
- Ask patients with respiratory illness to stay home when ill, to mask or cover their cough while in the office, and encourage them to do so in any public setting.
- Disease is transmitted via droplets. Staying >3 feet away from someone who is ill with influenza will decrease exposure.

**CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLANNING**

- Use signage at clinic entrances to discourage ill clients from walking in unannounced.
- If possible, segregate ill patients from routine patients in a separate waiting area.
- Enforce standard and droplet infection control precautions – mask and tissues.

**REQUIRE PATIENTS**

- Have all symptomatic patients use a surgical mask.
- Encourage patients to call before coming in for evaluation.
- Remind patients to cover their cough, use a mask (or hankies, tissue) to cover their cough.

**REQUIRE STAFF**

- Enforce standard and droplet infection control precautions. Require fastidious handwashing between patients or make hand sanitizer use ubiquitous.
- Activate policies to facilitate home isolation or quarantine of sick or exposed staff.
- All staff should wear N-95 mask (or mask with face

# COMMUNICABLE DISEASE UPDATE

MASON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH  
415 NORTH 6<sup>TH</sup> ST.  
SHELTON, WA, 98584  
DISEASE REPORTING: (360)427-9670 EXT 274  
Diana T. Yu, MD, MSPH, Health Officer



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- Report unusual cases of influenza or influenza-like illness to the health department **360-427-9670 ext 274**.
- Keep in daily communication with public health, hospital, and emergency management. Designate a staff member to take responsibility of this function. Lines of communication will be set up under emergency management.
- You will be getting daily updates.
- The following will be updated as soon as available:
  - Appropriate use of public health stock of antiviral medication
  - Appropriate use of masks
  - Guidance for school closure

Report all suspect cases to 24 hour recorded line at 360-427-9670 ext 274