

Cook County Department of Public Health

Cook County Health & Hospitals System

(formerly Cook County Bureau of Health Services)

Todd H. Stroger • President
Cook County Board of Commissioners

Warren L. Batts • Chairman
Cook County Health & Hospitals System

Jorge Ramirez • Vice Chairman
Cook County Health & Hospitals System

David R. Small, FACHE • Interim CEO
Cook County Health & Hospitals System



Health System Board Members

Dr. David A. Ansell
Commissioner Jerry Butler
David N. Carvalho
Quin R. Golden
Benn Greenspan
Sr. Sheila Lyne
Dr. Luis R. Muñoz
Heather E. O'Donnell
Andrea L. Zopp

1010 Lake Street, Suite 300
Oak Park, Illinois 60301

Telephone (708) 492-2000
TDD (708) 492-2002

Stephen A. Martin, Jr., Ph.D., M.P.H.
Chief Operating Officer

For Immediate Release: June 17, 2009

Contact: Amy Poore 708-492-2015

Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) officials report the second H1N1 Influenza-related death in suburban Cook County.

Individuals should remain vigilant in preventing the spread of illness

CCDPH officials report an 8year old boy from Oak Forest has died from complications related to H1N1 Influenza.

“This tragic death underscores the need for people to remain vigilant in preventing the spread of illness,” CCDPH COO Stephen A. Martin, Jr., Ph.D., M.P.H. said. “While we expect to see more confirmed cases and even more deaths from the virus, you can reduce your risk of becoming infected and prevent spreading it to others by covering your cough, cleaning your hands and containing your germs by staying home when ill.”

As of today, there are 622 laboratory-confirmed, 4 probable cases and two H1N1 influenza-related deaths in suburban Cook County.

Typically, seasonal influenza activity has tapered at this point in the year. However, transmission of the H1N1 virus appears to be on-going. Most individuals infected with H1N1 have reported mild symptoms similar to those of seasonal influenza such as fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headaches with several reporting diarrhea and vomiting.

Individuals experiencing influenza-like symptoms should stay home for seven days after symptoms begin or until they have been symptom-free for 24 hours, whichever is longer to prevent spreading the infection to others.

Individuals who are at a higher risk of serious flu-related complications include pregnant women, children younger than 5-years-old, people with chronic medical conditions and people 65-years and older. Examples of chronic medical conditions include diabetes, asthma, heart disease and lung disease. Individuals with underlying conditions should contact their physician at the onset of illness and not wait for severe illness.

For more information about H1N1 influenza, please visit www.cookcountypublichealth.org or call 708-492-2000.

###