

## **FOUR NEW CONFIRMED CASES OF H1N1 FLU VIRUS (HUMAN SWINE FLU) IN ONTARIO**

*All Cases Are Mild And Recovering At Home*

**NEWS**

May 1, 2009  
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Dr. David Williams, Ontario's Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, says there are four new confirmed cases of H1N1 flu virus (human swine flu), bringing to 12 the total number of cases in Ontario.

All cases involved travel to Mexico. Laboratory testing has confirmed that this H1N1 flu virus is the same as the one in Mexico and the United States.

The new cases include two in Toronto and two in Durham Region.

All of the new cases are considered mild and the individuals are recovering at home.

With the World Health Organization at pandemic alert level to Phase 5, Ontario is providing:

- Enhanced communication to ensure the health care system and the general public are aware of the current situation and actions they should be taking
- Enhanced monitoring of flu-like illness
- Enhanced direction to local authorities to begin activating local pandemic plans
- Coordinated activities in its Emergency Operations Centre. The centre is supported by a scientific response team, with experts drawn from the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion, to provide Dr. Williams and other ministry officials with technical and scientific advice.

Ontario is working very closely with the Public Health Agency of Canada, and all provinces and territories.

### **QUOTES**

"We expect that there will be more cases of the H1N1 flu being confirmed over the next few days. This will be due to the increased laboratory testing capacity now available in Ontario. As during any flu season, the best way for Ontarians to protect themselves and those around them is to wash hands frequently, cough or sneeze into your sleeve, and stay at home if you're sick."  
– Dr. David Williams, Ontario's Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health.

## QUICK FACTS

- Symptoms of the H1N1 flu virus (human swine flu) are similar to seasonal influenza (flu) including headache, chills and cough followed by fever, loss of appetite, muscle aches and fatigue, runny nose, sneezing, watery eyes and throat irritation. Nausea, vomiting and diarrhea may occur in adults as well as in children. In more severe cases, or in people with chronic conditions, complications such as pneumonia may develop.
- People returning from Mexico who have symptoms of respiratory illness should contact their health care provider or call TeleHealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000.
- For general information on the human swine flu, call the ServiceOntario INFOline at 1-800-476-9708.

## LEARN MORE

For more information about [H1N1 flu virus \(human swine flu\)](#).

To learn more about [hand washing](#).

Read about [public health initiatives](#) in the province.

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