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DATE: November 16, 2009

TO: District Superintendents of Schools
Superintendents of Public and Nonpublic Schools
Administrators of Charter Schools

FROM: Jean C. Stevens *Jean C. Stevens*

SUBJECT: 2009 H1N1 Influenza Respiratory Protection and Infection Control Measures

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently released guidance on infection control measures to prevent the transmission of 2009 H1N1 influenza for healthcare personnel – including school nurses who may potentially come in contact with an individual with 2009 H1N1 Influenza. The “Interim Guidance on Infection Control Measures for 2009 H1N1 Influenza in Healthcare Settings, Including Protection of Healthcare Personnel” can be accessed at: www.cdc.gov/h1n1/guidelines_infection_control.htm.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the State Department of Labor Public Employees Safety and Health Division (PESH) will enforce these CDC recommendations as a requirement under the General Duty Clause and General Industry Respiratory Protection Standard.

This requirement addresses the need to establish a respiratory protection program for health care workers (including school nurses) and recommends the implementation of a hierarchy of infection controls to reduce potential exposure to H1N1. This approach includes four steps, all of which should be implemented to the extent possible and in the following order of preference:

- 1st. The elimination of potential exposures (persons with influenza-like illness staying home);
- 2nd. Engineering controls (spacial separation in waiting areas, placing individuals with symptoms in separate rooms, or installing partitions between examination areas);
- 3rd. Administrative controls (promoting vaccinations, masking individuals with symptoms, covering mouth with arm when coughing and encouraging hand hygiene); and
- 4th. Personal protection equipment (PPE) for healthcare providers caring for suspected H1N1 influenza including the use of fit-tested disposable N95 respirators.

The majority of school health offices do not have staff trained and fit-tested to use N95 respirators. In addition, there is currently an anticipated nationwide shortage of disposable N95 respirators, therefore OSHA and the CDC have advised employers to prioritize the use of N95 respirators according to the guidance provided by the CDC. In the event schools are unable to acquire N95 respirators, the State Department of Health (DOH) has advised the State Education Department (SED) that limited quantities are available for schools from the strategic national stockpile by contacting their county emergency managers. A list of county emergency managers is attached to this letter, as well as a map showing State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) regions.

To further assist schools in complying with the requirement for a respiratory protection program, SED has partnered with DOH and BOCES to develop an H1N1 infection control technical assistance training program. The program includes the following topics: implementing a respiratory protection program; guidance on conducting medical evaluations; and fit-testing for N-95 masks. Based on factors such as their geographic location, participation in a BOCES health and safety service, or even scheduling – schools will be provided technical assistance by:

- BOCES health and safety offices;
- PESH Consultation Service;
- New York State DOH staff; or
- DOH-funded occupational health clinics.

Details on training availability will be forwarded under separate cover within the next few weeks. It will also be posted on the SED H1N1 web site at: <http://usny.nysed.gov/swine-flu-info.html>.

Please discuss this information with your school district's medical director and healthcare personnel (school nurses).

For more information on the H1N1 Respiratory Protection Program requirement, see:

PESH Staff Directive - Enforcement Procedures and Scheduling for Occupational Exposure to H1N1 Influenza

www.labor.state.ny.us/workerprotection/safetyhealth/PDFs/PESH/H1N12.pdf

OSHA News Release 2009 - 10/14/2009 - Statement by Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA Jordan Barab re: H1N1-related Inspections

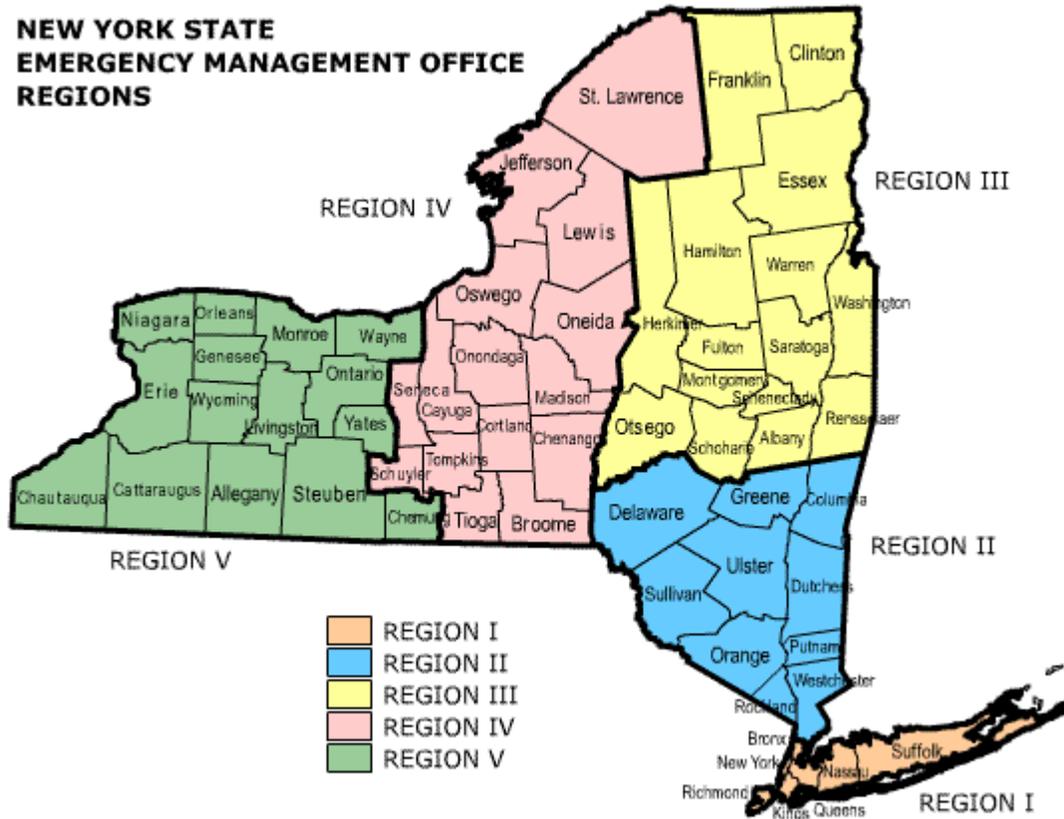
www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=16602

Interim Guidance on Infection Control Measures for 2009 H1N1 Influenza in Healthcare Settings, Including Protection of Healthcare Personnel

www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidelines_infection_control.htm

Attachments

**NEW YORK STATE
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE
REGIONS**



SEMO REGIONAL OFFICES

Region I

Phone: (631) 952-6322

Fax: (631) 952-3364

Email: SEMORegion1@semo.state.ny.us

Region II

Phone: (845) 454-0430

Fax: (845) 454-4620

Email: SEMORegion2@semo.state.ny.us

Region III

Phone: (518) 793-6646

Fax: (518) 793-6647

Email: SEMORegion3@semo.state.ny.us

Region IV

Phone: (315) 438-8907

Fax: (315) 438-3350

Email: SEMORegion4@semo.state.ny.us

Region V

Phone: (315) 331-4880

Fax: (315) 331-3934

Email: SEMORegion5@semo.state.ny.us

County Emergency Managers

Albany County - Critical Incident Emergency Management Unit (Region 3)

75 Remsen Street
Cohoes, New York, 12047

Ryan, Terrence (W): (518) 720-8026 (E): terrencer@albanycounty.com (FAX): (518) 233-7513

Allegany County Office Of Emergency Services (Region 5)

4884 State Route 19
Belmont, New York, 14813

Tucker, John, C (W): (585) 268-7658 (E): tuckerj@alleganyco.com (FAX): (585) 268-9695

Broome County - Office of Emergency Services (Region 4)

Public Safety Facility
153 Lt. VanWinkle Drive
Binghamton (city), New York, 13905

Chellis, Brett (W): (607) 778-1208 (E): bchellis@co.broome.ny.us (FAX): (607) 778-1204

Cattaraugus County - Office of Emergency Services (Region 5)

303 Court Street
Little Valley (village), New York, 14755-1092

Baker, Christopher (W): 716-938-2240 (E): cjbaker@cattco.org

Cayuga County Office of Emergency Management (Region 4)

County Office Building
160 Genesee Street
Auburn, New York, 13021

Dahl, Brian (W): (315) 255-1161 (E): bdahl@cayugacounty.us (FAX): (315) 253-1551

Chautauqua County - Office of Emergency Services (Region 5)

Office of Emergency Services
2 Academy Street Suite A-Room 106
Mayville, New York, 14757-1007

Leone Jr., Julius (W): (716) 753-4341 (E): leone@chautcofire.org (FAX): (716) 753-4363

Chemung County - Emergency Management Office (Region 5)

103 Washington Street
POB 588
Elmira (city), New York, 14902-0588

Smith, Michael (W): (607) 737-2096 (E): msmith@co.chemung.ny.us (FAX): (607) 737-2098

Chenango County - Office of Emergency Management (Region 4)

Chenango County Public Safety Facility
279 County Road 46
Norwich (city), New York, 13815

Beckwith, Matthew (W): (607) 337-1862 (E): mbeck301@roadrunner.com (FAX): (607) 337-1865

Clinton County - Emergency Services Office (Region 3)

16 Emergency Services Drive
Plattsburgh (city), New York, 12903

Day, Eric (W): (518) 565-4791 (E): daye@co.clinton.ny.us (FAX): (518) 566-1202

Columbia County - Office of Emergency Management (Region 2)

85 Industrial Tract
Hudson, New York, 12534

Black, Bill (W): (518) 766-6689 (E): bblack@sfl.net (FAX): (518) 828-9088

Cortland County - Office of Fire & Emergency Management (Region 4)

60 Central Avenue
Cortland, New York, 13045

Duell, G., R

(W): (607) 753-5064

(E): grduell@cortland-co.org

(FAX): (607) 753-7815

Delaware County - Office of Emergency Services (Region 2)

280 Phoebe Lane
Suite 3
Delhi (town), New York, 13753

Bell, Richard

(W): (607) 746-9600

(E): richard.bell@co.delaware.ny.us

Dutchess County - Department of Emergency Response (Region 2)

392 Creek Road
Poughkeepsie (city), New York, 12601

Davidson, Ken

(W): (845) 486-2080

(E): k davidson@co.dutchess.ny.us

(FAX): (845) 486-3998

Erie County - Emergency Services Department (Region 5)

45 Elm Street
Buffalo, New York, 14203

Skibitsky, Gregory

(W): (716) 858-6578

(E): skibitsg@erie.gov

Essex County - Office of Emergency Services (Region 3)

Essex County Office of Emergency Services
702 Stowersville Road, P.O. Box 30
Lewis, New York, 12950

Jaquish, Donald

(W): (518) 873-3901

(E): djaquish@co.essex.ny.us

(FAX): (518) 873-3963

Fulton County - Civil Defense (Region 3)

County Complex
2714 State Highway 29
Johnstown (city), New York, 12095

Polmateer, Allan

(W): (518) 736-5858

(E): civildef@co.fulton.ny.us

(FAX): (518) 762-4938

Genesee County - Office of Emergency Management Services (Region 5)

7690 State Street
Batavia (city), New York, 14020

Yaeger, Timothy

(W): (585) 344-0078

(E): tyaeager@genesee.co.ny.us

(FAX): (585) 344-8535

Greene County - Office of Emergency Services (Region 2)

25 Volunteer Drive
Cairo, New York, 12413

Farrell, John

(W): (518) 622-3643

(E): jfarrell@discovergreen.com

(FAX): (518) 622-0572

Hamilton County - Office of Emergency Services (Region 3)

PO Box 44
Lake Pleasant
Lake Pleasant, New York, 12108

Purdy, Don

(W): (518) 548-6223

(E): EmergencyMgmt@HamiltonCountyNY.Gov

Herkimer County - Office of Emergency Management (Region 3)

71 Reservoir Road
Herkimer (town), New York, 13350

Vandawalker, Robert A

(W): (315) 867-1212

(E): Rvandawalker@herkimercounty.org.

(FAX): (315) 867-5873

Jefferson County - Office of Fire & Emergency Management (Region 4)

Metro-Jefferson Public Safety Bldg
753 Waterman Drive
Watertown (city), New York, 13601

Plummer, Joseph (W): 315-786-2654 (E): josephp@co.jefferson.ny.us

Lewis County - Office of Emergency Management (Region 4)

P.O. Box 233
Outer Stowe St.
Lowville (town), New York, 13367-0233

Martin, Jim (W): (315) 376-5305 (E): jmartin@lewiscountyny.org (FAX): (315) 376-5293

Livingston County - Emergency Management Services (Region 5)

3360 Gypsy Lane
Mount Morris (town), New York, 14510

Niedermaier, Kevin, P (W): (585) 243-7160 (E): kniedermaier@co.livingston.ny.us (FAX): (585) 243-7162

Madison County - Office of Emergency Preparedness (Region 4)

POB 577
County Office Building
Wampsville, New York, 13163

DeFrancisco, Joseph (W): (315) 366-2258 (E): madco1@dreamscape.com (FAX): (315) 366-2714

Monroe County - Emergency Management Office (Region 5)

1190 Scottsville Road, Suite 200
Rochester, New York, 14624

Meisenzahl, Mary Louise (W): (585) 753-3810 (E): mcoep@monroecounty.gov (FAX): (585) 473-7087

Montgomery County - Office of Emergency Management (Region 3)

64 Broadway
PO Box 1500
Fonda, New York, 12068-1500

Nestle, Gary (W): (518) 853-4011 (E): emogen34@nycap.rr.com (FAX): (518) 853-4714

Nassau County - Office of Emergency Management (Region 1)

100 Carman Avenue, New York, 11554

Callahan III, James J (W): (516) 573-0636 (E): jcallahan@nassaucountyny.gov (FAX): (516) 573-0673

Caronia, Gregory (W): (516) 573-0636 (E): gcaronia@nassaucountyny.gov (FAX): (516) 573-0673

New York City Office of Emergency Management (NYC OEM) (Region 1)

165 Cadman Plaza East
Brooklyn, New York, 11201

Bruno, Joseph (W): (718) 422-8700 (FAX): (718) 422-8710

Niagara County - Office of Emergency Services (Region 5)

5574 Niagara Street Ext.
POB 496
Lockport (city), New York, 14095

Volkosh, James (W): (716) 438-3171 (E): james.volkosh@niagaracounty.com (FAX): (716) 438-3173

Oneida County - Emergency Services Office (Region 4)

120 Base Road
Oriskany, New York, 13424

Van Namee, Frederic, A (W): (315) 765-2526 (E): FVanNamee@co.oneida.ny.us (FAX): (315) 765-2529

Onondaga County - Department of Emergency Management (Region 4)

421 Montgomery
Syracuse, New York, 13202

Alberti, Peter (W): (315) 435-2525 (E): emweb01@ongov.net (FAX): (315) 435-3309

Ontario County - Emergency Management Office (Region 5)

2914 County Rd. 48
Canandaigua (city), New York, 14424

Harloff, Jeffrey (W): (585) 396-4310 (E): jeff.harloff@co.ontario.ny.us (FAX): (585) 396-4583

Orange County - Department of Emergency Services (Region 2)

22 Wells Farm Road
Goshen (town), New York, 10924

Koury, Walter (W): (845) 615-0567 (E): wkoury@orangecountygov.com (FAX): (845) 294-8927

Leary, Seamus (W): (845) 615-0479 (E): sleary@orangecountygov.com (FAX): (845) 294-8927

Orleans County - Emergency Management Office (Region 5)

14064 West County House Road
Albion (town), New York, 14411

Wagner, Paul (W): (585) 589-4414 (E): pwagner@orleansny.com (FAX): (585) 589-7671

Oswego County - Office of Emergency Management (Region 4)

200 North Second Street
Fulton, New York, 13069

Egan, Patricia (W): (315) 591-9150 (E): eganp@oswegocounty.com (FAX): (315) 591-9176

Otsego County - Office of Emergency Services (Region 3)

County Office Building
197 Main Street
Cooperstown, New York, 13326

Jones, Lyle, W (W): (607) 547-4227 (E): jonesb@otsegocounty.com (FAX): (607) 547-4377

Putnam County - Office of Emergency Services (Region 2)

112 Old Route Six
Carmel, New York, 10512

Lannon, Thomas (W): (845) 808-4000 (E): tlannon@pcbcs.org

Stiebeling, Adam (W): (845) 808-4000 (E): astiebeling@pcbcs.org (FAX): (845)-808-4010

Rensselaer County - Bureau of Public Safety (Region 3)

4000 Main St.
Troy, New York, 12181-0389

Paslow, Kelly (W): (518) 270-4160 ext. 322 (E): kpaslow@rensco.com (FAX): (518) 270-4164

Rockland County - Office of Fire and Emergency Services (Region 2)

35 Fireman's Memorial Drive
Pomona, New York, 10907+

Greeley, Daniel (W): (845) 364-8932 (E): greeleyd@co.rockland.ny.us (FAX): (845) 364-8961

Wren, Gordon (W): (845) 364-8933 (E): wreng@co.rockland.ny.us (FAX): (845) 364-8961

Saratoga County - Office of Emergency Services (Region 3)

25 West High Street
Ballston Spa, New York, 12020

Lent, Paul (W): (518) 885-2232 (E): plent@saratogacountyny.gov (FAX): (518) 884-4707

Schenectady County Office of Emergency Management (Region 3)

531 Liberty Street
Schenectady, New York, 12305

Nuzback, John (W): (518) 370-3113 ext.2 (E): john.nuzback@schenectadycounty.com (FAX): (518) 370-3115

Schoharie County - Emergency Management Office (Region 3)

PO BOX 690
Schoharie (town), New York, 12157

Warner, Judith (W): (518) 295-2276 (E): judithwarner@co.schoharie.ny.us (FAX): (518) 295-2277

Schuyler County - Office of Emergency Management (Region 4)

Michael J. Maloney Public Safety Building
106 10th Street
Watkins Glen, New York, 14891

Kennedy, William (W): (607) 535-8200 (E): bkennedy@co.schuyler.ny.us (FAX): (607) 535-8201

Seneca County - Office of Emergency Management (Region 4)

1 DiPronio Drive
Waterloo (town), New York, 13165

McCann, Charles, F (W): (315) 539-1756 (E): cmccann@co.seneca.ny.us (FAX): (315) 539-9150

Sinclair, Suzanne (W): (315) 539-1701 (E): ssinclair@co.seneca.ny.us

Taylor, Melissa (W): (315) 539-1757 (E): mtaylor@co.seneca.ny.us

St. Lawrence County - Office of Emergency Services (Region 4)

Public Safety Complex
48 Court St.
Canton (town), New York, 13617

Ballard, Craig, C (W): (315) 379-2240 (E): cballard@co.st-lawrence.ny.us (FAX): (315) 379-0681

Hassett, Martin (W): (315) 379-2240 (E): Mhassett@co.st-lawrence.ny.us

Steuben County - Office of Emergency Services (Region 5)

6979 Rumsey Street, Ext.
Bath (town), New York

Sprague, Michael, A (W): (607) 664-2700 (E): msprague@linkny.com (FAX): (607) 776-3334

Suffolk County - Fire, Rescue & Emergency Services (Region 1)

Yaphank Ave Bldg. #C0110
30 East Ave
Brookhaven, New York, 11980-0127

Levy, Steve (W): (631) 853-4000 (E): slevy@suffolkcountyny.gov (FAX): (631) 852-4861

Williams, Joseph F. (W): (631) 852-4850 (E): joe.williams@suffolkcountyny.gov (FAX): (631) 852-4861

Sullivan County - Office of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (Region 2)

POB 5012
10 North Street, County Government Center
Monticello, New York, 12786

Martinkovic, Richard (W): (845) 807-0508 (E): richard.martinkovic@co.sullivan.ny.us (FAX): (845) 583-5158

Tioga County - Office of Emergency Management (Region 4)

103 Corporate Drive
Owego (town), New York, 13827

LeCount, Richard (W): (607) 687-2023 (E): tcemo@co.tioga.ny.us (FAX): (607) 687-6755

Tompkins County - Department of Emergency Response (Region 4)

92 Brown Rd.
Ithaca (city), New York, 14850

Shurtleff, Lee (W): (607) 257-3888 (E): lshurtleff@tomkins-co.org (FAX): (607) 257-2314

Ulster County - Emergency Management, Office of (Region 2)

238 Golden Hill Lane
Kingston (city), New York, 12401

Snyder, Arthur, R (W): (845) 331-7000 (E): asny@co.ulster.ny.us (FAX): (845) 331-1738

Warren County - Emergency Services, Office of (Region 3)

1340 State Route 9
Lake George (town), New York, 12845

LaFlure, Brian (W): (518) 761-6537

Washington County - Department of Public Safety (Region 3)

Washington County Municipal Center
383 Broadway
Fort Edward (town), New York

Cook, William (W): (518) 747-7520 (E): Wcook@co.washington.ny.us (FAX): (518) 746-2219

Griffin, Stephen (W): (518) 747-7520

Wayne County - Emergency Management Office (Region 5)

7336 Route 31
Lyons (town), New York

Bastedo, George (W): (315) 946-5664 (E): gbastedo@co.wayne.ny.us (FAX): (315) 946-9721

Westchester County - Office of Emergency Management (Region 2)

200 Bradhurst Ave
Mount Pleasant, New York, 10532

Sutton, Anthony (W): (914) 231-1688 (E): aws1@westchestergov.com (FAX): (914) 231-1622

Wyoming County - Emergency Management Office (Region 5)

County Public Safety Bldg
151 N. Main, Suite 221
Warsaw (town), New York, 14569

Santoro, Anthony (W): (585) 786-8866 (E): Asantoro@wyomingco.net

Yates County - Office of Emergency Management (Region 5)

227 Main St.
Penn Yan, New York, 14527

Miller, Glen, R (W): (315) 536-3000 (E): gmiller@yatescounty.org (FAX): (315) 536-5191

NO ORGANIZATION

Loughren, Thomas (W): (607) 334-2000 (E): sheriff@co.chenango.ny.us (FAX): (607) 336-2080

Messing, Dean, A (W): (716) 858-6578 (E): messingd@bfo.co.erie.ny.us (FAX): (716) 858-7937
