



Special points of interest:

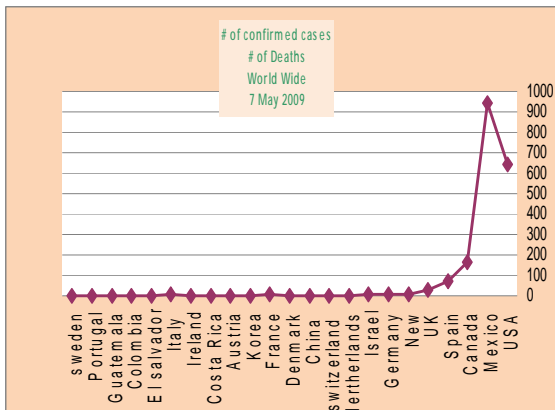
•NO suspected Swine Flu Cases in UAE.

•23 countries have so far officially reported confirmed cases of A(H1N1)

•UAE has activated its pandemic preparedness plan.

•Cumulative number of confirmed cases worldwide is 1895.

•WHO advises against restrictions on regular travel and closure of borders.



No. of confirmed Cases all over the world

Country	Confirmed Cases
Mexico	942
USA	642
Canada	165
Spain	73
UK	28
Germany	9
News lands	5
Italy	5
France	5
Israel	4
Korea	2
El Salvador	2
China	1
Colombia	1
Costa Rica	1
Denmark	1
Austria	1
Guatemala	1
Ireland	1
Netherlands	1
Portugal	1
Sweden	1
Switzerland	1

Emergency Meeting of the Arab Ministers of Health

H.E. Humaid Al Qutami, Minister of Health, participated on 5 May 2009 in the Emergency Meeting of the Executive Board of the Arab Ministers' Council held in Riyadh.

H.E. stated that coordination of efforts between Arab countries is extremely important for the purpose of controlling the spread of A(H1N1) to the Arab World. H.E. also indicated that Arab Ministers advised for continuous follow up on the latest updates regarding the disease, vaccine production, exchange of scientific information and expertise, and early and immediate case reporting of suspected cases present in any Arab country. In addition, H.E. said that public education on the disease and related prevention measures is a necessary mean to control its spread.

A Message from the U.A.E Embassy to its citizens

The U.A.E Embassy in the U.S.A instructed its citizens to check the website of The CDC to learn more about the disease and the extent of its spread in the U.S.A

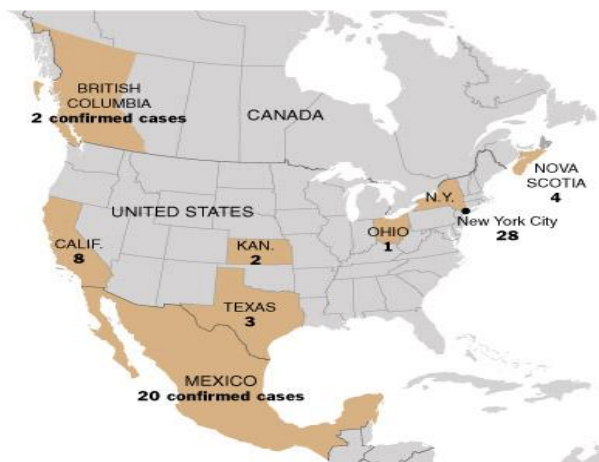
The Embassy also advised its citizens not to travel to areas where cases of A(H1N1) have been reported.



UAE hospitals are ready for the isolation of A(H1N1) cases if to be found in UAE.

H.E. Humaid Al Qutami, Minister of Health, has confirmed that the UAE is still Swine Influenza free and continues to implement preventive measures ensuring the prevention of A(H1N1) from entering the country. H.E. stated that all the hospitals in the country have assigned isolation rooms and are fully equipped with related medical equipments, one time use masks and preventive uniforms. H.E. also added all the hospitals are ready to receive suspected, probable and/or confirmed cases of A(H1N1). H.E. continues to confirm that the UAE has satisfactory available medications to be used to treat A(H1N1) flu in case to be found in the UAE.

Training workshops for health workers are being implemented in all hospitals, primary health care clinics, and preventive medicine units all over the country.



Why Education is Important?

At this time, there is nothing to worry about. A(N1H1) outbreak poses no immediate threat to UAE residents. However, education would better prepared to deal with A(N1H1) Flu and lower the level of panic.

What is Swine Flu?

It is a respiratory illness caused by type A(H1N1) influenza virus that has originated from pigs. Its contagious and can now spread from a person to person.

How do people become infected?

Infection with (AH1N1) occurs in humans when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Infected droplets get on the hands, drop into surfaces, or are dispersed into the air. Another healthy person can be exposed by breathing in contaminated air, or touching infected hands or surfaces. To prevent the spread of A(H1N1) virus, people should cover their mouths and noses when coughing, and wash their hands regularly.

Who is at risk?

Travelers coming from affected countries should immediately report to the nearest health care facility if the following symptoms become apparent:

- Fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Eye pain
- Shortness of Breath
- Muscle Pain
- Extreme Fatigue

Is it safe for UAE residents to travel?

At this point, there is no travel restrictions related to the outbreak of A(H1N1).

Are there medicines to treat Swine Flu ?

There is no vaccine for A(H1N1) yet. However, there is no cause for panic. Enough amounts of effective antiviral medication are stockpiled in the UAE.

Helpful public health hints?

A(H1N1) can be contagious as long as the infected person is showing symptoms (approximately 7 days).

A(H1N1) can live for 2 hours or longer on surfaces like door knobs and desks.

Frequent hand washing reduces the chance of getting contaminated with A(H1N1).

Soap and water as well as many commercial hand cleaners are effective in protecting the person.

References?

www.who.int

www.cdc.gov/swineflu

