



## INFORMATIVE BULLETIN ON THE INFLUENZA A(H1N1) EMERGENCY

June 2-8, 2009

7:30 P.M.

### Japanese officials and the Mexican Health Secretary discuss their experiences with the influenza virus

June 8

During a meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Ito, Mexican Health Secretary José Ángel Córdova said that the influenza A/H1N1 epidemic is under control and that there are very few, isolated new cases. The last contagion occurred on June 3, and the last death was on May 31. Therefore, the possibility of *lifting* the epidemiological alert this month is being evaluated.

The Health Secretary said that Mexico has laboratories in several states that are equipped to diagnose the illness, rapid and focused strategies to provide immediate attention to outbreaks, and sufficient medicine to treat the patients, who have responded very well; to date there has been no resistance.

He stated that all of the measures taken have made it easier to control the illness, and that there is no risk to foreign tourists who come to Mexico.

The Health Secretary said that Mexico is working on a project to manufacture the vaccine through the Biological and Reactive Laboratories of Mexico (Birmex), and that it could be ready in about three months. At the moment, there is an on-going scientific study that is examining blood samples from the Mexican population for antibodies to the virus because it is believed that many people had contact with the virus but did not develop any symptoms.

The Health Secretary thanked the Japanese government for all of the aid sent to Mexico during the first days of the influenza epidemic.

For his part, the Japanese Foreign Minister acknowledged the leadership of the Mexican government in counteracting the spread of the infectious disease and said that both nations should cooperate more in the future to overcome the problems caused by this illness.

He thanked the Mexican government for reporting on the number of infected individuals from the very early stages of the epidemic and for presenting specimens of the virus to the WHO, which enabled the global community to address the problem much more effectively, as occurred in Japan.

On behalf of the Japanese government, he extended his most sincere condolences for the victims of the fire in the daycare center in Hermosillo, Sonora, and offered any necessary assistance.

[http://portal.salud.gob.mx/redirector?tipo=0&n\\_seccion=Boletines&seccion=2009-06-08\\_4007.html](http://portal.salud.gob.mx/redirector?tipo=0&n_seccion=Boletines&seccion=2009-06-08_4007.html)

### The current state of the epidemic

June 4

The Health Ministry reported that there are a total of 5,717 confirmed cases of influenza A/H1N1 virus in Mexico.

The ministry said that there are 106 confirmed deaths recorded. The deaths total 1.9% of the total number of confirmed cases. Of these, 52.8% were of females and 47.2% of males. 71.7% were between 20 and 54 years of age.



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[http://portal.salud.gob.mx/descargas/pdf/influenza/situacion\\_actual\\_epidemia\\_040609.pdf](http://portal.salud.gob.mx/descargas/pdf/influenza/situacion_actual_epidemia_040609.pdf)

### International Organizations

#### **WHO Influenza A (H1N1) – update 45**

June 8

The World Health Organization (WHO) communicated that as of June 8, there are 25,288 officially notified cases of human infection of influenza A(H1N1) in 73 countries.

The nations that have been added to the list of countries with confirmed cases of influenza A/H1N1 since June 1 are: Barbados, the Cayman Islands, Dominica, Egypt, Estonia, Jamaica, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Trinidad and Tobago and the Arab Emirates.

The countries with the highest number of officially notified cases continue to be the United States, Mexico, Canada, Spain, the United Kingdom and Japan.

Regarding fatal cases of influenza A/H1N1, 115 have been reported, only in countries on the American continent. Reporting deaths are Mexico, the United States, Canada, Costa Rica, Chile and the Dominican Republic.

[http://www.who.int/csr/don/2009\\_06\\_08/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/csr/don/2009_06_08/en/index.html)

#### **WHO. Third meeting of the International Health Regulations (IHR) Emergency Committee**

June 6

The WHO Director-General convened a third meeting of the International Health Regulations Committee on June 5, 2009. The purpose of the meeting was to update the committee on the global situation and seek advice on the proposals to introduce severity assessments in any future announcements of pandemic phase changes by WHO.

In discussion with the committee, the Director-General noted that the world remains in pandemic influenza Phase 5 and reaffirmed that WHO will continue to monitor the situation closely in all countries reporting cases of new influenza A (H1N1).

Based on the advice of the committee, the Director-General determined that it was appropriate to continue the existing temporary recommendations, namely:

1. That all countries intensify surveillance for unusual outbreaks of influenza-like illness and severe pneumonia.
2. Not to close borders and not to restrict international travel. It is considered prudent for people who are ill to delay international travel and for people developing symptoms following travel to seek medical attention.
3. That the production of seasonal influenza vaccine should continue at this time, subject to reevaluation as the situation evolves.

[http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/3rd\\_meeting\\_ihr/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/3rd_meeting_ihr/en/index.html)