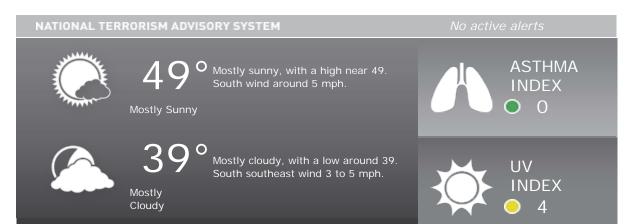








Marion County Medical Multi-Agency Coordination Center



THREAT ANALYSIS

Novel influenza calls for enhanced safety protocols

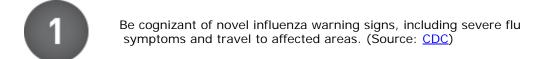
As this especially severe flu season continues in the United States, novel influenza strains lurk as a potential public health threat. Clinical safety is paramount when dealing with novel influenza.

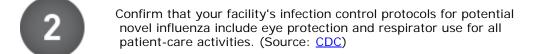
This season's widespread flu activity is due primarily to H3N2, an influenza A virus common to humans. Novel influenza viruses, on the other hand, are influenza A viruses with a unique subtype and often originate from animals. (Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC))

Novel influenza viruses, due to their higher morbidity levels and lack of effective vaccines, call for a higher level of infection control measures than seasonal flu. (Source: CDC) Last spring, a mix up at a CDC laboratory involving H5N1 led to the potential exposure of dozens of government workers. Errors in both lab and clinical settings have the potential to harm health professionals as well as hasten the spread of viruses. (Source: Scientific American)

Last week, Canada confirmed two British Columbia residents had tested positive for H7N9 avian flu after a recent visit to China, where 15 infections and three deaths have been connected to the strain since December. (Source: The New York Times) Avian flu cases in birds have recently been detected in Washington, California and Nevada, and the CDC recently reported that a person in Minnesota has recovered from H1N1v swine flu. (Sources: The Seattle Times, Reuters, The Reno Gazette-Journal, Outbreak News Today)

ACTION STEPS





Engage with your state and local health department to monitor risk levels for novel flu infection. (Source: Public Health Agency of Canada)

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY		
03	No Mass Gatherings Scheduled	

If you are not yet subscribed to this daily brief, click here to sign up.

MESH does not assume any liability for the content, materials, information, and opinions provided within this communication. Further, MESH disclaims any liability resulting from use of any content within this communication. Information contained in this communication is provided "as is," with all faults. Neither MESH, nor any person associated with MESH, makes any warranty or representation with respect to the quality, accuracy, or availability of this information.

MESH serves as the designated Medical Multi-Agency Coordination Center for Marion County, Indiana. The MESH Intelligence Program is a joint-effort between the City of Indianapolis, Division of Homeland Security, the Marion County Public Health Department and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security designed to provide real-time information and support to the healthcare sector in the Indianapolis area. Assistance with info or questions at: Office phone: 317.630.7363, Pager: 317.310.6762, Email: MESHintel@meshcoalition.org

This email was sent by: **MESH** 3930 Georgetown Road Indianapolis, Indiana, 46254, USA. Weather forecast information appears pursuant to a license from AccuWeather®GlobalTM by Telemet, Inc. It is unlawful to copy or redistribute such information. If you would like to update your profile please click: <u>Update Profile</u> If you prefer not to receive any more emails from us <u>Unsubscribe</u>