



भारत सरकार  
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय  
निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली - 110011

Government of India  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare  
Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi-110011

D.O. No. D.32020/5/2009-EMR

**Naresh Dayal**

Health & FW Secretary  
Tel.: 23061863 Fax : 23061252  
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Dated 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2009

Dear

You may be aware that, there are reports of Swine Influenza A [H1N1], a re-assorted Swine flu virus that is causing epidemic in Mexico and has spread to neighbouring United States and Canada. Suspected cases are also being reported from New Zealand, Spain, France and U.K. As on date there are about 1200 suspect cases reported with about 86 deaths.

World Health Organization has officially designated this outbreak as public health emergency of international concern and has raised the pandemic alert level from phase 3 to 4 implying sustained human to human transmission.

As this disease appears to be spreading globally, the situation has the potential to change fast. We are enhancing our surveillance at Ports and International Airports. Integrated Disease Surveillance focal points in the States are being alerted to report clusters of Influenza like illness and that of pneumonia. Government would be issuing a travel advisory for those planning to travel to the affected areas to defer non essential travel. This may also be emphasized at the State level.

Any suspected cluster of Influenza like illness needs to be investigated by the State Rapid Response Teams and managed in isolation facility with strict infection control practices. If need be, we would be deputing the Central Rapid Response Teams to assist the State.

We propose to send to you a package that includes guidelines [clinical management, infection control practices, laboratory support and FAQs], Oseltamivir and personal protective equipments to heighten the level of preparedness of your State. You may also consider procuring these items from your own resources.

In this alert phase the control room in Emergency Medical Relief [EMR] division of my Department would be functioning from 8.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. Your officers can access the control room at 011-23061469. For requesting outbreak investigations the 24x7 Influenza Monitoring Cell at National Institute of Communicable Diseases [NICD] may be contacted at 011-23921401.

You may like to chair a meeting with all concerned in your State to review the level of preparedness. As and when WHO revises its strategy I would revert back to you. You are also requested to instruct the health department to identify a state level nodal officer to coordinate with EMR division of Directorate General of Health Services. His name, address, telephone, fax No. and e-mail address may be communicated to EMR division of Dte.G.H.S (diremr@nic.in).

With regards,

Yours sincerely,  
Sd/-  
[Naresh Dayal]

To  
Chief Secretary, all States/UTs.