

**For public distribution
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EOC SITUATION REPORT #16 Influenza A(H1N1)

Status of Influenza A(H1N1) in the Americas

- Two new countries, Argentina and Panama, have confirmed cases of Influenza A(H1N1).
- The total confirmed cases of influenza A(H1N1) recorded in the Americas is as follows:
 - o Mexico has reported 1,626 confirmed cases, 48 deaths;
 - o USA, 2,254 confirmed cases with 2 deaths;
 - o Canada, 280 confirmed cases with 1 death;
 - o Costa Rica, 1 confirmed case with 1 death;
 - o Brazil, 6 confirmed cases;
 - o El Salvador, 2 confirmed cases;
 - o Panama, 3 confirmed case;
 - o Argentina, 1 confirmed case.
 - o Colombia, 1 confirmed case;
 - o Guatemala, 1 confirmed case.
- The World Health Organization maintains pandemic alert of [Phase 5](#). There is no evidence of sustained community level human to human transmission outside of the Americas.

Status of Influenza A(H1N1) in other Regions

- As of today, 29 countries have officially reported 3,440 cases of influenza A(H1N1) infection.
- The following countries have reported laboratory confirmed cases with no deaths: Australia (1), Austria (1), China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (1), Denmark (1), France (12), Germany (11), Ireland (1), Israel (7), Italy (6), Japan (3), Netherlands (3), New Zealand (5), Poland (1), Portugal (1), Republic of Korea (3), Spain (88), Sweden (1), Switzerland (1) and United Kingdom (34).

PAHO/WHO Response

- Oseltamivir from the PAHO/WHO contingency supply continues to arrive in Member Countries. PAHO/WHO is also supporting countries in obtaining other immediate needs such as laboratory diagnostic kits and Personal Protective Equipments (PPE).
- A total of 54 experts from PAHO/WHO and the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) partners, such as CDC (USA) and Institut Pasteur (France), were deployed from 24 April to date. At the moment there are 30 staff members from PAHO and partners in Mexico.

- **Seasonal vaccination**

- Immunization against seasonal influenza in the Southern Hemisphere, initiating winter season, begun in April 2009 during the seventh Vaccination Week in the Americas.
- This year, Vaccination Week emphasized vaccination of the entire family, and the immunization of health workers.
- Health educational materials on immunization, including materials for health-care workers, can be accessed on the [PAHO website](#).

Recommendations

- PAHO/WHO recommends that countries continue to review their national influenza pandemic preparedness plans, and address any gaps identified.
- **Use of thermal infrared scanners and imaging systems**
 - Thermal imaging systems are used for mass screening in public areas to detect body temperature.
 - Body temperature rise may be due to different causes such as flight stress, drinking of alcoholic beverages, or other illnesses, not necessarily influenza A(H1N1). A person may be carrying the virus without showing external symptoms.
 - PAHO/WHO does not promote the acquisition of these equipments as its cost-effectiveness has not been demonstrated.

Resources

- [Pan American Health Organization](#) website.
- [World Health Organization](#) website.
- For constant updates on the influenza A(H1N1) situation you can check the [PAHO](#) and [WHO](#) channels in Twitter. Through this service you can get regular updates in your mobile device.

Contact the PAHO EOC at +1 202 974 3399 or eoc@paho.org
[Click here](#) to view previous situation reports from the PAHO Emergency Operations Center.