

EVOLUTION OF THE 2009 H1N1 INFLUENZA VIRUS PANDEMIC

March 2009 to April 2010

Compiled by Richard L. Hardesty, Jr.

March 2009

28 Edgar Hernandez becomes the first known H1N1 case. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports the earliest onset of H1N1 in the U.S.

April 2009

13 A woman dies of H1N1 in Oaxaca, Mexico, becoming the first H1N1-related death worldwide.

21 CDC alerts doctors to the new strain of H1N1.

25 The World Health Organization (WHO), declares a formal “public health emergency of international concern.” In the U.S., the first H1N1-induced school closing occurs near San Antonio.

26 A public health emergency is declared in the U.S.

29 The first H1N1-related death in the U.S. occurs in Texas.

May 2009

2 More than 430 schools close in eighteen states due to H1N1.

3 H1N1 vaccine preparations begin.

5 CDC issues revised criteria for school closures, effectively ending widespread shutdowns.

7 Confirmed cases of H1N1 in the U.S. tops 1,000.

20 H1N1 cases worldwide exceed 10,000.

June 2009

11 The WHO declares an H1N1 pandemic. H1N1 cases worldwide reach 30,000.

July 2009

25 Thousands of Americans are recruited for H1N1 vaccine testing.

31 The WHO reports approximately 1,154 deaths worldwide.

August 2009

30 The WHO reports approximately 2,837 deaths worldwide.

September 2009

- 15 The FDA approves the new H1N1 vaccine.
- 21 The U.S. government orders 251 million doses of H1N1 vaccine.
- 25 Forty-two schools are closed in eight states as the second wave begins.
- 27 The WHO reports approximately 4,108 deaths worldwide.

October 2009

- 5 The first batches of H1N1 vaccine become available to five priority groups.
- 23 President Barack Obama declares the H1N1 outbreak a national emergency.
- 25 The WHO reports approximately 5,712 deaths worldwide.

November 2009

- 13 The WHO reports signs that the early flu season peaked in North America.
- 30 Only thirty-two states report widespread influenza activity.

December 2009

- 16 Approximately 100 million doses of H1N1 vaccine become available, leading public officials to lift vaccine restrictions.
- 18 Only seven states report widespread influenza activity.
- 27 The WHO formally confirms 12,220 deaths due to H1N1.

January 2010

- 7 Dr. Anne Schuchat estimates that 60 million Americans received the H1N1 vaccine.
- 8 The FDA and CDC affirm H1N1 vaccine safety, as most of the adverse events were “non-serious.”

February 2010

- 12 CDC estimates that H1N1 may have killed as many as 17,000 Americans.
- 18 The WHO recommends that H1N1 be included in the 2010 flu vaccine.

March 2010

- 5 In San Antonio, three people die of H1N1 over the past two weeks.

April 2010

- 1 Dr. Anne Schuchat reports that the Southeastern U.S. has seen an increase in H1N1 activity. In Maryland, a person from the Baltimore-metro area becomes the state's 45th H1N1-related death.

References for timeline available upon request to 410-902-4677.