Information Update from the Ohio Joint Information Center

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Dear Ohio Media Member,

Today, Thursday, April 30, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) continues to report one case of H1N1 (formerly known as swine flu) in Ohio. This number will not change today.

The ODH H1N1 flu information line – 1-866-800-1404 – is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

As of 8 a.m., today, the ODH information line has received 718 calls since the hotline was established on Monday, April 26.

Most of the calls were related to the symptoms of H1N1, formerly known as the swine flu, with many people ill, caring for an ill person or curious about the symptoms. The second most common topic was from people who have either recently returned from Mexico or who are planning on travel to Mexico.

ODH will provide daily updates on the swine flu situation in the state. For additional information, please contact the ODH Office of Public Affairs at 614-644-8652 or the joint information center at 614-799-6480.

Ohio has received its allotment of antiviral medication from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Strategic National Stockpile. Ohio's first shipment arrived just before 5 p.m., Tuesday afternoon April 28. The shipments have been prepositioned at a secure, undisclosed location.

Earlier this week, the CDC Division of Strategic National Stockpile (DSNS) initiated shipment of 25 percent of its stockpile of antiviral medications, personal protective equipment, and respiratory protection devices for distribution to all 50 states. Photos are available for media at the Ohio EMA Web site http://www.ema.ohio.gov/PAO_H1N1_Photos.aspx. (Editors/Assignment Editors: Photos should be credited to “State of Ohio/Ohio Department of Health”)