



# STATE OF OHIO

## Emergency Operations Center

### SITUATION REPORT

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Ted Strickland, Governor

**FROM:** Ohio Emergency Management Agency

**SUBJECT:** Swine Flu Incident April 2009

**DATE:** April 28, 2009

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This is the daily Situation Report (SitRep) for the "Swine Flu Incident 2009" event. Information is current as of 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28, 2009.

### GENERAL SITUATION

U.S. Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency on April 26, 2009 as a matter of preparedness in response to the current situation. The World Health Organization (WHO) raised the level of influenza pandemic alert from Phase 3 to Phase 4 on April 27, 2009. Phase 4 indicates an increase in risk of a pandemic as it is characterized by sustained human-to-human transmission and is able to cause community outbreaks. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a Travel Health Warning recommending against nonessential travel to Mexico. The Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) is deploying antiviral treatments to the states of California, Texas, Indiana, Ohio, Arizona, and New York where swine flu cases have been confirmed.

There is one confirmed swine flu case in Ohio, a Lorain County male child who is recovering well. The elementary school attended by the child has been closed until May 4<sup>th</sup>. There are other suspected cases that are undergoing testing coordinated by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and the CDC. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) remains at CAS 2 with one daily briefing at 3:00 p.m. The Strategic National Stockpile materiel requested by Ohio has been delivered and unloaded at the state's initial staging location. The Ohio Department of Health (ODH), the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), the Ohio National Guard (ONG), and the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP), along with other EOC partners have coordinated the receipt, storage and staging of the SNS antivirals and personal protective equipment. These partners have been meeting daily to discuss the logistical details of further distribution of the SNS materiel.

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) as the lead agency continues to monitor case report information and provide guidance to Local Health Districts. ODH is engaged in supporting ESF-8 missions, the Joint Information Center, and the State Assessment Room.

**Beginning on April 29, 2009, there will only be one CAS briefing until further notice. The next CAS Level 2 briefing is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. tomorrow in the SEOC Operations Room.** The SEOC Assessment Room will be staffed until 6:00 p.m. this evening and reopen at 7:00 a.m. The SEOC Operations Room will be staffed until 5:00 p.m. this evening and reopen at 8:00 a.m. tomorrow. The Joint Information Center will close at 5:00 p.m. this evening and reopen at 7:30 a.m. tomorrow. The Ohio EMA Duty Officer will be available to receive and route calls related to this incident overnight.

## **DECLARATIONS**

### **National Public Health Emergency**

A National Public Health Emergency was issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Sunday, April 26 in response to recent human infections with a newly discovered swine influenza A (swine flu) virus. As of early this morning, there were 47 CDC confirmed cases of swine Influenza A (swH1N1) in California, Texas, Kansas, New York, and Ohio. No deaths in the U.S. have been reported due to the illness.

### **State Declaration**

A Governor's Declaration is in effect for the specific purpose of receiving, storing, and transporting the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS).

## **STATE LEVEL DISASTER ASSISTANCE ACTIONS**

### **ESF 1 – Transportation**

#### **Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)**

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) confirms completion of transporting supplies to the Receive, Store, and Stage (RSS) site under a state mission requested by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH).

ODOT Districts within which Regional Distribution Nodes (RDN) are located will be making verifications of the RDN facilities and beginning to implement the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) delivery plan. Additional MARCS radios are being procured for delivery to ODOT Field Supervisors and drivers. At this time ODOT anticipates being able to satisfy delivery to Points of Distribution (POD) from the RDN's. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) has been contacted and will be available for support if needed. They have confirmed availability of 32 vehicles with drivers.

### **ESF 6 – Mass Care**

#### **Ohio Community Service Council (OCSC)**

OCSC staff has been monitoring ESF-6 activity and reviewing plans. All ESF-6 partners have been alerted and asked to provide activity updates.

Ohio Citizen Corps

Richland County volunteers have been placed on standby for work in the county EOC as reported by the county Citizen Corps Council coordinator Kathi Cutlip.

Ohio Medical Reserve Corps (Ohio MRC)

All local MRC units have been alerted about the State EOC status and placed on standby.

Wood County MRC Coordinator, Trish Benarth, reports that members have been working in the public health assessment room.

Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH)

Notifications and alerts from ODH and CDC have been sent to employees and state facilities regarding swine flu and most recent information. Joseph Hill, ODMH disaster services lead, has spoken directly with the Lorain County behavioral health board. They are monitoring the situation closely, but have not seen any increase in service needs. Lorain County has a large Latino population, with Puerto Ricans comprising the largest group.

In addition, the local board and providers have bilingual staff and are connecting with local communities to quickly identify and address any local issues. All behavioral health boards have received updated information, including links to the CDC website.

**ESF 8 – Public Health and Medical Services**

Ohio Department of Health (ODH)

The Ohio Department of Health activated its Departmental Operations Center and reports the following objectives and status:

**1. Objective – Receive and transport SNS and Ohio Influenza Resources**

**Status** – Received 10 trucks and all have been off loaded and are staged on the RSS warehouse floor. The CDC EOC stated this is a complete delivery. ODH is working on the allocation formula based on epidemiological surveillance. A plan is currently in place to deliver anti-virals to Regional Distribution Nodes (RDN).

**2. Objective – Maintain Communication with Health Partners**

**Status** – Conducting LHD Conference Calls each day at 1100

**3. Objective- Develop and disseminate Public Information**

**Status** – Call centers are available to disseminate information. The State Inquiry Line is 1-866-800-1404 and is operational Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There is a Spanish speaker in the call center.

#### **4. Objective- Continue epidemiological surveillance**

##### **Tasks include:**

- Continue the epidemiological investigation of swine flu cases (work with local health departments to ID suspect or confirmed cases)
- Assist local health departments to document case information and communicate epidemiological information
- Work with ODH Epidemiological office to disseminate the treatment message as CDC further refines their outbreak messages

##### **Accomplishments:**

- The Epidemiological team at ODH is working with each local health department to identify suspected cases of swine flu.

#### **ESF 11 – Agriculture**

##### Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA)

The Ohio Department of Agriculture Director Robert Boggs today issued a statement regarding measures Ohio swine farmers should take to prevent the spread of influenza in their herds, including the implementation of strict biosecurity measures such as restricting visitor access to their facilities. Director Boggs also reminded Ohioans that pork is safe to eat, and that swine influenza is not transmitted through meat consumption.

Director Boggs convened a meeting with the Ohio Commodity Groups as well as some of the agriculture and horticulture groups to update them on the influenza situation, what the department is doing during this situation, and to gather comments and suggestions.

The department is working closely with the National Animal Health Laboratory Network and USDA to provide continued surveillance of Ohio's swine population.

#### **ESF 12 – Energy**

##### Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO)

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio reports that the major electric and telephone companies in Ohio all have continuity of business plans and pandemic plans that are reviewed by the PUCO and that Ohio's utilities are monitoring the pandemic events locally and nationally.

Due to severe weather in Michigan over the weekend First Energy sent crews Monday from Toledo Edison and Ohio Edison to Detroit, Michigan to assist in storm recovery.

## **ESF 13 – Law Enforcement**

### Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP)

The Highway Patrol stands ready to assist with the transport and security of the SNS. All security clearances have been provided to the Ohio National Guard as requested from April 27, 2009.

Routes of travel have been selected and a complete listing of road closures was obtained from ESF-1 Transportation.

## **ESF 15 – Emergency Public Information and External Affairs**

The Joint Information Center (JIC) has sent out two news releases, one about precautions farmers should take and the other explaining that Ohio Department of Health has only one confirmed case of Swine Influenza. One television, two radio, and two newspaper interviews have been completed. The JIC has received two additional television requests and are working to assist those reporters as needed.

The JIC is also monitoring media reports for rumor control. Representatives in the JIC at this time include personnel from the ODH, Ohio National Guard, Ohio Department of Agriculture and Ohio Department of Public Safety. The JIC will close today at 5:00 p.m. and reopen at 7:30 a.m. tomorrow morning.

As of this morning, the State Public Inquiry Line (1-866-800-1404) had received a total of 70 inquiries.

## **COUNTY IMPACTS**

The following county reports are current as of 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 28, 2009.

### Cuyahoga County

The County EOC remains operational on a 24hr basis. Two inquiry hotlines have been established, one for Cuyahoga County (216-201-2091) and one for the City of Cleveland (216-664-3689). Public health and other response agencies are participating in two conference calls daily to coordinate information and planning activities in the county.

### Lorain County

Lorain County EOC will reevaluate its 24hr operations later today. The County EOC is participating in conference calls with neighboring counties. 991 masks (M95, M100, paper) have been distributed to first responders. The county inquiry hotline has handled 569 calls to date.

### Seneca

The eight illegal immigrants detained in a Tiffin jail tested negative for the presence of swine flu.

### Wood

A fact sheet has been forwarded to the county “211” system for use in response to any public inquiries. The County EMA and Public Health offices are coordinating information.

**BRIEFING/SITREP DATA**

Crisis Action System (CAS) Level 2 Briefing: The next CAS 2 briefing is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 29, 2009. There will be only one daily CAS briefing until further notice. The State EOC Assessment Room staff will continue to monitor the swine flu incident in Ohio.

All agencies should email their briefing reports to: [eocassmt@dps.state.oh.us](mailto:eocassmt@dps.state.oh.us).