

GO

To: Cal Poly Faculty, Staff and Students

From: Bob Koob  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date: 27 April 2009

Re: Swine Influenza Precautions

As you may know, the Centers for Disease Control are reporting an outbreak of swine influenza and have declared a public health emergency.

CDC officials report that human cases of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection have been identified in the United States and internationally. An investigation and response effort surrounding the outbreak of swine flu is ongoing.

Currently, CDC reports 40 confirmed cases of a relatively mild form of the virus, within the U.S. Of those, seven cases have been reported in California.

No Cal Poly swine are known to be infected, nor are there any known cases of swine flu reported in humans or swine in San Luis Obispo County.

University officials are in close contact with San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department and are monitoring the situation closely. Consistent with campus plans for outbreak of a contagious disease, we are prepared to take action as needed. We will continue to update the campus community regularly as more information becomes available about conditions in our area.

It's important to remember what it means to declare an emergency, and what it doesn't mean. The declaration does not mean the identified cases of so-called swine flu have reached epidemic, much less pandemic stage.

An emergency declaration, according to news reports, is what the government would do in declaring one for a hurricane. "It means we can release funds and take other measures. The hurricane may not actually hit," according to Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano at a news conference Sunday.

The CDC is working very closely with officials in states where human cases of swine influenza have been identified, as well as with health officials in Mexico, Canada and the World Health Organization. This includes deploying staff domestically and internationally to provide guidance and technical support.

Below is information to help you identify swine flu symptoms and take necessary pre-cautions to avoid contracting or spreading the virus. Our goal is to keep the campus community as healthy as possible.

If you have any flu-like symptoms see a doctor for treatment and STAY HOME – for your own well being and the well being of others.

**To avoid the spread of flu:**

- o Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze;
- o Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or with an alcohol-based hand cleaner;
- o Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth; and
- o Avoid close contact with sick people, including kissing, sharing eating utensils, or drinking from the same container.

**Swine flu symptoms are the same as a regular flu and range from mild to severe**

- o Fever;
- o Cough;
- o Sore throat;
- o Body aches;
- o Headache; and
- o Chills and fatigue.

According to the CDC symptoms of swine flu in people may also include lethargy, loss of appetite and coughing. Some people with swine flu also have reported runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

**Seek immediate medical care if you have:**

- o Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath;
- o Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen;
- o Confusion; or
- o Severe or persistent vomiting.

For extensive information about swine flu, visit [http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/key\\_facts.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/key_facts.htm) or [http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/swineflu\\_you.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/swineflu_you.htm)

•