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### **Disease Prevention and Emergency Preparedness Division**

Please be vigilant in looking for signs and symptoms of this virus in your schools and/or child care settings. Signs and symptoms of swine Influenza A is similar to those of seasonal influenza and include the following:

- fever
- lethargy
- headache
- body aches
- cough
- sore throat
- may experience diarrhea and/or vomiting

If a student comes to school with these symptoms, they should go home, and stay at home until 24 hours after all symptoms have resolved, before returning to school. In cases of mild illness, the student should be self-isolated at home. Instructions should be given to contact the child's medical provider for further advice.

If a parent or guardian cannot pick the student up right away, make every attempt to keep that student separate from other students seeking help in the health room. Make every attempt to keep first aid visits separate from those visits where a student is seeking care for influenza-like illnesses.

There is no need to isolate a student or person who has recently traveled to an area experiencing an outbreak of swine Influenza A, unless that person is symptomatic.

The current seasonal vaccine (for 2008-09 season) does not contain a good match to the H1N1 strain identified in swine Influenza A, and will not provide protection against this illness.

#### Prevention Strategies:

Remember that swine Influenza A is passed from person to person, and not from pigs or from eating pork or pork products.

Continue to reinforce the implementation of prevention strategies such as:

- Routine handwashing
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or by coughing or sneezing into your elbow
- Avoid others with respiratory illness
- Stay at home if you have mild-flu like illness. This is regardless of travel history.

Please stay informed! <http://cdc.gov/swineflu> is an excellent source of information, and covers many questions and concerns related to schools, and [http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/key\\_facts.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/key_facts.htm) has excellent key facts regarding swine Influenza A.

If you have questions, contact the Colorado Help Line at 1-877-462-2911.