

SWINE FLU (H1N1) VIRUS RESPONSE PLAN

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Lewis & Clark College has established the following plan to respond to the emergence of swine flu (H1N1 virus). Our plan is based on guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO). No swine flu cases have occurred in Oregon as of this time (4/29/09). However, we have prepared the following plan to guide our communication and action on this issue. It is flexible and will be updated as new information about swine flu becomes available.

1. Keep the campus community aware of the latest information about swine flu.

A. We have established a webpage dedicated to our institutional response to swine flu. That webpage is available at: <http://www.lclark.edu/dept/health/swineflu.html> This page contains links to the CDC, WHO, and Multnomah County Public Health swine flu web pages.

B. We are sending periodic emails to faculty, staff and students apprising them of the risks and strategies for responding to the risks of this disease. Via these emails we have instructed community members of the symptoms of the disease, and how to respond to these symptoms should they occur.

C. We are planning communication with students traveling in affected countries to guide them in their decision-making related to their plans.

D. We are providing information on request to new students and others to help them understand the risk factors and our institutional response.

E. We are using the monthly online magazine, Student Health 101, as a vehicle to communicate disease-related information to students at all three schools.

F. We have emailed parents of undergraduate students to alert them of our webpage and our institutional response.

2. Promote strategies for reducing the potential transmission of swine flu, should it occur locally. These strategies have been endorsed by Centers for Disease Control and American College Health Association.

A. Promote social distancing strategies.

1. We are communicating to students and faculty that students who suspect they have the disease should not attend class and should seek medical care.

2. We are communicating with employees that should they suspect they have the disease, they should stay home from work, and seek medical care.

B. Hand washing and use of hand sanitizer.

1. We are placing hand sanitizer at key locations on campus.

2. We are arranging to have hand sanitizer available for purchase on campus.

3. We are communicating with faculty, staff and students to promote effective hand hygiene.

C. Covering Cough.

1. We are promoting the practice of covering coughing and sneezing.

3. Prepare for swine flu (H1N1) cases on campus in case they occur.

A. We have identified several thousand face masks that are available on campus for distribution if needed.

B. We have adopted strategies for screening for the disease in our Student Health Service and for accommodating and referring potential patients.

C. We are monitoring the needs of international students and how we can best protect their health and well-being should the disease occur locally.

4. We have implemented an ongoing infrastructure to allow us to respond to new developments as they unfold.

A. The Crisis Management Planning Committee will be meeting on a regular basis with appropriate auxiliary members to monitor and respond to the situation.

For more information about swine flu recommendations for schools:

Centers for Disease Control

<http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/index.htm>

World Health Organization

<http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

Multnomah County Health Department

<http://www.mchealth.org/panflu/index.shtml>