



OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

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IPFW monitors Influenza A (H1N1)/North America/Human, reviews pandemic plan

IPFW is working closely with local health and government officials in response to a serious new flu strain that began in Mexico. The university is monitoring the situation in the community and on campus.

The university has a detailed plan for responding to such threats, with an emphasis on protecting the health of students, faculty, and staff. The university's Crisis Management Planning Committee has reviewed the plan and is updating pertinent areas. The plan is available at <http://www.ipfw.edu/pandemic/>

Originally called "swine flu," or "Mexican flu," the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) now reports that the virus causing the current influenza outbreak is not a swine flu virus, but a combination of human, swine, and bird viruses.

Signs and symptoms of this flu virus are much like seasonal influenza:

- High fever/chills (over 100 degrees)
- Dry nonproductive cough
- Fatigue
- Runny nose (sometimes)
- Sore throat
- Body aches
- Headache
- Vomiting and diarrhea (sometimes)

The ISDH reports the new flu virus is responding to viral drugs and urges everyone to take this potential health threat seriously. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the ISDH are recommending the following measures be practiced by everyone:

- Frequent hand washing and/or use of an alcohol-based sanitizing gel
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing
- Stay home and away from others if you are sick
- Call your health care professional or visit the IPFW/Parkview Clinic (Walb 234) if you have flu-like symptoms

Updates will be issued as warranted. More information about this strain of flu can be found at www.cdc.gov/swineflu/index.htm or www.H1N1.in.gov .