

From: Erin Bascom
Sent: April 27, 2009 12:02 PM
To: ML Employees
Subject: Human Swine Influenza

Importance: High

The following information is being disseminated to ensure that all employees and students are up to date on the current conditions regarding Human Swine Influenza.

According to the Public Health Agency of Canada, Human swine influenza is a respiratory illness that causes symptoms similar to those of regular human seasonal flu. The symptoms include fever, fatigue, lack of appetite, coughing and sore throat. Some people with human swine influenza have also reported vomiting and diarrhea.

Human Swine Influenza can become serious and lead to complications that cause chronic and acute illnesses such as pneumonia and has lead to death in some cases.

UPDATE:

So far, cases have been reported in Mexico, United States and Canada. 6 cases of Human Swine Influenza have been reported in Canada so far, the following link will be updated accordingly as new cases are reported. [http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/alert-
alerte/swine-porcine/surveillance-eng.php](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/alert-alerte/swine-porcine/surveillance-eng.php)

The following is an April 26th, 2009 news release from the Province of British Columbia http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2005-2009/2009HSERV0047-000936.pdf
Here you will find useful information on symptoms and precautions to take to avoid getting contracting this illness.

VIU ACTIVITIES:

Health and Safety Services has met with International Education and has reviewed all current and impending student travel and study abroad programs. We will be continually monitoring the situation through online resources such as: Public Health Agency of Canada, BC Centre for Disease Control, Health Canada, and the World Health Organization. We will be monitoring travel advisories through Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada. Currently, we are taking precautions and staying informed and no institutional travel has been cancelled.

USEFUL INFORMATION:

If you are planning a trip in the next few weeks, please visit, <http://www.voyage.gc.ca/index-eng.asp> to check to see if there are any travel advisories for your destination.

ILLNESS:

If you or someone you know is experiencing flu like symptoms, please call Healthlink BC (at 811) for advice or see a doctor immediately.

For ongoing updates or if you have any questions, please visit our website at: www.viu.ca/healthandsafety/index.asp or call 250 740-6283.

Erin Bascom

**Health and Safety Coordinator
Health and Safety Services**

Vancouver Island University

**Tel: 250 740-6282
Fax: 250 740-6222**

<http://www.viu.ca/healthandsafety/index.asp>