



Kern County Swine Flu Report For the Week of August 6, 2009

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bakersfield –As of today, there are a total of 82 laboratory confirmed cases of H1N1 Influenza involving residents of Kern County.

Pandemic H1N1 (previously called influenza A H1N1) is now widespread in communities throughout California. Effective this week, California Department of Public Health is only requesting local health departments to report hospitalized cases and fatal cases of H1N1. So far Kern County has had 7 hospitalized confirmed cases. Kern County Department of Public Health will continue to provide an update of total confirmed cases reported to the department each week.

The Pandemic H1N1 virus continues to be the predominant circulating influenza virus throughout California. The severity of illness caused by the H1N1 virus today has not been any worse than seasonal influenza. However, it is important for the community to understand that there are more cases of H1N1 influenza occurring in Kern County that are not being confirmed through laboratory testing. The ways to best protect your family and your self is to follow the three “C’s” of disease prevention:

- Cover your cough
- Clean your hands
- Confine sick people at home

For more information, please call our Swine Flu Hotline at 1-877-81VIRUS.

