



# Livingston County Department of Public Health Communicable Disease Update

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## Livingston County H1N1 Response

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Lessons learned from this event include the following: 1) disease outbreaks are fluid situations with evolving conditions that may result in guidance that changes over time, 2) Livingston County's healthcare community was able to implement changing guidance as more information became available, and 3) communication to the community worked well and evolved and improved over time. These lessons will be invaluable as preparations begin for the fall/winter flu season.

As of June 12<sup>th</sup>, there have been 16 confirmed cases of Novel A Influenza in Livingston County. The ages ranged from 5 years to 34 years with an average age of 15.8. Of these cases, 75% were males and 25% females.

The current recommendations now focus on patients and their close contacts at higher risk for influenza-related complications. A person who is at high-risk for complications of novel influenza (H1N1) virus infection is defined as the same for seasonal influenza at this time. As more epidemiologic and clinical data become available, these risk groups might be revised.

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared novel H1N1 a Phase 6 pandemic on June 11, 2009. A Phase 6 designation indicates a global pandemic is under way, with over 70 countries reporting cases of novel H1N1. WHO's decision to raise the pandemic alert level to phase 6 reflects the spread of the virus, not the severity of illness caused by the virus.

### H1N1

#### Livingston County, Michigan & the United States

Year	Livingston County*		Michigan**	
	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases
2009	0	16	2	655

\*LCDPH Select CD Activity 6/15/2009 Michigan Disease Surveillance System

\*\*MDCH Influenza H1N1 Website accessed 6/17/2009

R. Cook, RN, BSN  
Communicable Disease Supervisor

## Rabies FAQ

### What constitutes a potential rabies exposure?

- A bite from an animal to a human.
- Saliva contact from an animal to a human's open cut or mucous membrane.
- A bat found in the same room with a sleeping person, an unattended child, an intoxicated person, or anyone unable to confirm that they were NOT bitten. Finding a bat OUTSIDE of the room the person was in (i.e., in a hallway or on the other side of an open door) is NOT considered an exposure.

### There was a bat in my house. Should my family get rabies post-exposure prophylaxis?

Family members need prophylaxis if EXPOSED (see above) AND

- the bat was tested and found to be rabies positive, indeterminate, or unsatisfactory to test, or
- the bat was not caught and therefore cannot be tested.

### Where can I find recommendations for animal rabies exposure, quarantine, and prophylaxis?

Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Protocol for People Exposed to Mammals

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/Rabflowcht3people\\_7361\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/Rabflowcht3people_7361_7.pdf)

### Where can I get more information on human rabies prevention?

CDC Rabies <http://www.cdc.gov/rabies>

Livingston County Department of Public Health (LCDPH) Rabies & Animal Bite Exposure Personal Health Fact Sheet [http://co.livingston.mi.us/health/personal\\_health/factsheet/Fact%20Sheet%20PDFs/rabies.PDF](http://co.livingston.mi.us/health/personal_health/factsheet/Fact%20Sheet%20PDFs/rabies.PDF)

### Do all animals that bite humans need to be tested for rabies?

- If the biting animal is a rodent (rat, mouse, squirrel, guinea pig, chipmunk or gerbil), a marsupial (opossum) or a lagomorph (rabbit), we usually do not recommend testing because the possibility of rabies is extremely low.
- If one of these animals exhibited unusual behavior or if the bite was unprovoked or for consultation on the need for testing and post-exposure prophylaxis, contact LCDPH.

### To contact LCDPH

During normal business hours – Monday through Friday: 8 AM to 5 PM,  
(517) 552 – 6882.

After Hours:

Calls within Livingston County, dial 911.

Calls from outside Livingston County, dial (517) 546-9111.

Ask for CD Nurse on call.

## HIV Testing Days, June 24 & 25, 2009

LCDPH will be offering free oral HIV testing on Wednesday, June 24, 2009 from 3 PM to 6 PM by appointment and Thursday, June 25, 2009 from 8:30 AM to noon, either on a walk-in basis or by appointment. LCDPH is located at 2300 East Grand River (near Chilson Road) in Howell. Testing is anonymous or confidential. Call 517-552-6882 to make an appointment or for more information. A return appointment is needed for results.