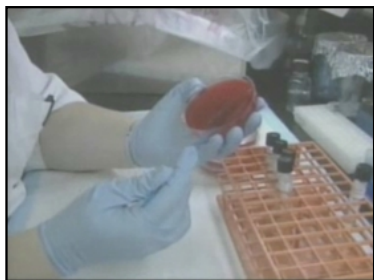


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By: Linzi Sheldon

New developments in swine flu outbreak



There have been several developments today in the swine flue outbreak.

Homeland Security the Centers for Disease Control are advising Americans not to travel to Mexico. There 149 people have died from the swine flu - where the virus originated.

There are now 41 cases in the U.S. including 28 at one school in New York City. There are also confirmed cases in California, Kansas, Texas and Ohio. All schools are suspended in Mexico until May 6.

Homeland Security says the U.S. is preparing as if swine flu is a full pandemic.

Jen O'Donnell says she's worried about swine flu and the safety of her young grandson. In Mexico, there have been more than 100 suspected deaths from the virus. "I'm just afraid the people that are over there now because a lot of people are vacationing and maybe bringing it back with them. That could be an issue."

Ahad Kamal had planned to take his family to Cancun but isn't so sure about that anymore. "Well we were going to go in December, but even if they clear it up by then it's still kind of scary because I mean it's pretty serious stuff."

The virus is passed along through sneezes, coughs or from direct contact with infected people. So far, there are no swine-flu cases in Rochester but Pediatrician Edward Lewis says parents should be alert. "People have looked at the flu as being sort of a mild type of illness, not something to worry about over the years. But now, with the possibility of some bad strains coming in across the border we need to watch it carefully."

"The concern should be those that have these symptoms but also have a history of travel to an infected area in the last week." Monroe County Health Director Andrew Doniger says they are prepared with anti-viral medicine to fight the flu if it does show up in Rochester.

Kamal says he can't help but worry about his two-year-old daughter and he'll be keeping an eye out for any

new info about the virus. "We've got toddlers in kindergarten, so you always see flu-like symptoms - sneezing, runny noses - so of course, kick in the paranoia a little bit."

Doniger says Monroe County has plenty of anti-viral medicine like Tamiflu. That's often used to treat the kind of flu we're used to. He says they have Tamiflu stockpiled in local hospitals at the health department and also at the state and national levels.

- [Watch](#) Monroe County Health Director's press conference on the swine flu
- [Click here](#) for information from the Centers for Disease Control about the swine flu
- www.pandemicflu.gov
- To find out how your child's school district is handling the outbreak, go to their website or call

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