



## NEWS: PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS

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### Amrep's Latest Information on Novel H1N1 (formerly Swine Flu)...

Novel H1N1, formerly referred to as Swine Flu in its early stages, is still making headlines. First detected in the US in April of this year, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared Novel H1N1 a pandemic alert Phase 6 (on a 6-phase scale). This means that the virus is widespread and has caused sustained community level outbreaks in multiple countries in multiple WHO regions. However, most infected people do recover with no hospitalization or medical care at all.

Novel H1N1 has many similarities to the common seasonal influenza. The signs and symptoms of the flu viruses are similar. Novel H1N1 is spread from person to person in a similar manner as the common seasonal influenza. However, one key difference between them is that very few adults under 60 years of age have any existing antibodies to the H1N1 virus. Approximately one third of adults over 60 do have antibodies to the H1N1 virus. Thus, Novel H1N1, when compared to the standard seasonal flu, affects a disproportionate number of people under the age of 60.

At this time, CDC recommends the use of specific antiviral drugs for the treatment and/or prevention of infection of H1N1 viruses. Vaccines are in the clinical trial stage of development and should be available by late fall.

There are many recommendations for people to follow to avoid the spread of, and in turn limit exposure of, the Novel H1N1. As recommended by the CDC, these everyday actions can help prevent the spread of germs that cause respiratory illnesses like influenza:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you get sick with influenza, CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

Some viruses and bacteria can live two hours or longer on surfaces like cafeteria tables, doorknobs, and desks. Disinfection of hard surfaces is another way to prevent the spread of flu viruses. Current disinfectants in the marketplace have not been approved against Novel H1N1. Thus, industry, including Amrep, currently does not have Novel H1N1 claims on any of our US EPA registered disinfectants.



However, EPA recently stated the following:

“EPA believes, based on available scientific information, that the currently registered influenza A virus products will be effective against the 2009-H1N1 flu strain and other influenza A virus strains on hard, non-porous surfaces. For safe and effective use of these products, always follow label instructions for these products, paying special attention to the product’s dilution rate (if applicable) and contact time.”

Amrep does offer many products that are registered and effective against other strains of the Influenza A Virus. Based on available scientific evidence, EPA believes these will be effective against the Novel H1N1. These products are:

<b>Product Group</b>	<b>Misty Product</b>	<b>Specific Influenza label claim</b>
<b>A00220</b>	<b>Dual Action Disinfectant</b>	Influenza A/Hong Kong virus ATCC VR-544, Influenza B virus/Hong Kong ATCC VR-823
<b>A00223</b>	<b>Surface Disinfectant</b>	Influenza A2 England Virus
<b>A00224</b>	<b>Surface Disinfectant II</b>	Influenza A2 England Virus
<b>A00251</b>	<b>Multi-Purpose Disinfectant Cleaner</b>	Influenza A3 (Hong Kong)
<b>A00252</b>	<b>Multi-Purpose Disinfectant Cleaner II</b>	Influenza A3 (Hong Kong)
<b>B00272</b>	<b>Bidet ND64</b>	Influenza A2/Hong Kong
<b>B00273</b>	<b>Bidet ND128</b>	Influenza A2/Hong Kong, Avian Influenza A Virus
<b>B01220</b>	<b>Bidet ND32 - Lemon</b>	Influenza A / Hong Kong
<b>B01223</b>	<b>Bidet ND32 - Pine</b>	Influenza A / Hong Kong

Contact us at 800-66-AMREP or [www.amrep.com](http://www.amrep.com) for more information on these fine products.

For more information about Novel H1N1 please see the CDC, WHO, and US EPA websites:

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>

<http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/oppad001/influenza-disinfectants.html>

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