

إخباريات

رسالة شهرية إخبارية تصدر عن الملحقية الصحية العدد 8 النسخة 1 . رمضان 1430 هـ الموافق أغسطس 2009 م

اسرة التحرير: المشرف العام: الملحق الصحي/ سليمان بن منصور الشعبي رئيس التحرير: د. هويدا هاشم محرر: هيفاء المبارك

تهنئة:

أخواني وأخواتي المقيمين في الولايات المتحدة للعلاج ومرافقيهم.. هذه رسالة لكم من محب لكم في الله يعمل هو وجميع موظفي الملحقية ويسعى دوما لتقديم أفضل الخدمات وفق الإمكانيات المادية والبشرية المتاحة لهم وكذلك وفق الأنظمة والتعليمات. أتقدم لكم جميعا بالتهنئة الخالصة من القلب بحلول شهر رمضان الكريم هذا الشهر الذي أنزل فيه القرآن. قال تعالى: " شهر رمضان الذي أنزل فيه القرآن هدى للناس وبينات من الهدى والفرقان " صدق الله العظيم.

أرجو من الله العلي القدير أن يبلغنا وإياكم جميعا هذا الشهر الكريم وأن يعيننا على صيامه وقيامه ويجعلنا بإذن الله من عتقائه من النار وأن يشملنا برحمته وأتمنى من أعماق قلبي لكم بأن يمن الله عليكم بالشفاء والعافية والعودة إلى أرض الوطن وأنتم بآتم الصحة والعافية إن شاء الله في القريب العاجل.

وكل عام وأنتم بخير

التهنئة الخالصة لمقام خادم الحرمين الشريفين وسمو ولي عهده الأمين وسمو النائب الثاني حفظهم الله جميعا بحلول شهر رمضان الكريم أعاده الله علينا وعلي جميع المسلمين بالصحة والعافية وأعانهم الله على صيامه وقيامه.



نتقدم بالتهنئة والتبريكات بحلول شهر رمضان المبارك لمعالي وزير الصحة الدكتور عبدالله بن عبدالعزيز الربيعة، تقبل الله منا ومنكم صالح الأعمال وجعلها خالصة لوجهه الكريم.



يطيب لنا أن نقدم التهنئة بالشهر الفضيل لمعالي سفير خادم الحرمين الشريفين بالولايات المتحدة الأمريكية الأستاذ/عادل بن أحمد الجبير داعين المولى عز وجل أن يتقبل منا ومنكم الصيام والقيام وسائر الأعمال إنه سميع مجيب.



د. الربيعة : توفير اللقاح المضاد لمرض إنفلونزا الخنازير
لحجاج الداخل وقاطني المشاعر المقدسة



قال معالي وزير الصحة الدكتور عبد الله بن عبد العزيز الربيعة: إن الوزارة حجزت كمية كافية من اللقاح المضاد لمرض الإنفلونزا من النمط A-H1N1 لاستخدامها لحجاج الداخل والقاطنين في منطقتي مكة المكرمة والمدينة المنورة وكذلك للعاملين في موسم الحج والعاملين الصحيين بكافة مناطق المملكة .
جاء ذلك في كلمة ألقاها معاليه خلال الاجتماع الطارئ لوزراء الصحة لدول شرق المتوسط لمنظمة الصحة العالمية والذي عقد بمقر المنظمة بالقاهرة بحضور 22 دولة . (التفاصيل في الصفحة 2)



Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia

Saudi Health Mission

United States and Canada

News Update

A monthly message issued by the Saudi Health Mission, Volume 8 Number 1, Ramadan, 1430 August 2009

General Supervisor: Health Attaché, Mr. Suliman Al Shuaibi , **Editor-In-Chief:** Dr. Howaida Hashim, **Editor:** Ms. Haifa Al-Mubarak

Saudi firm develops anti-swine flu drug

RIYADH – The Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA) has approved the first Saudi produced anti-swine flu drug which has now been officially registered by the Saudi Ministry of Health, according to a UPI report Tuesday. SFDA vice president Saleh Bawazir described the “Osilta” drug as the “first anti–swine flu drug in the world”, saying it was only available by prescription to persons infected by swine flu.

“The drug,” Bawazir was quoted as saying, “is 30 percent cheaper than previously used drugs.”

Khalid Al-Zamil, the assistant general manager of the company producing the drug, said that it was used to tackle the virus during the first few days of infection and not for prevention. Researchers, he said, began working on it since the first case of swine flu was announced.

The drug has been on the market since the end of last month and the Ministry of Health has been contacted in order to supply hospitals, according to Al-Zamil, who cited the drug as having a factory price of 91 riyals and said it would be made available to GCC countries.

Al-Zamil said the “phosphate Osilta attacks the virus enzymes which are the sugar proteins on the surface of the virus to stop the virus spreading in the infected body.”

Tawfiq Khouja, director general of the executive office of the GCC Council of Health Ministers, told UPI that tests had shown Osilta to be effective in fighting the virus. SG Newspaper

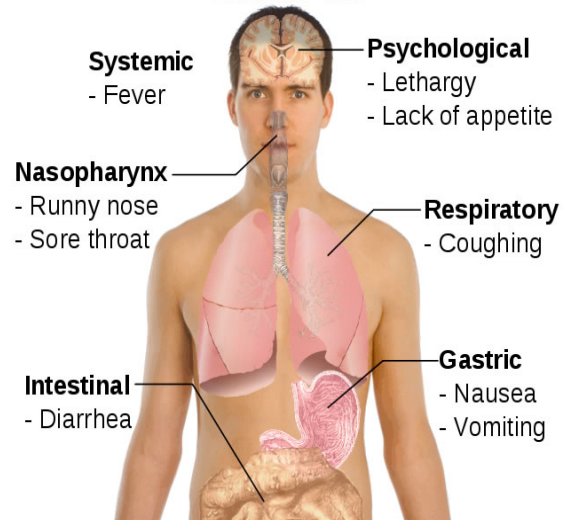
Pandemic (H1N1) 2009:

Laboratory-confirmed cases of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 as of 6th August 2009

Regions	Cumulative total	
	Cases*	Deaths
WHO Regional Office for Africa (AFRO)	591	1
WHO Regional Office for the Americas (AMRO)	102905	1274
WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO)	2346	7
WHO Regional Office for Europe (EURO)	Over 32000	53
WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia (SEARO)	11432	83
WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WPRO)	28120	43
Grand Total	177457	1462

*Given that countries are no longer required to test and report individual cases, the number of cases reported actually understates the real number of cases
Source: www.who.int

Symptoms of Swine flu



601 New Hampshire Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20037

Telephone: (202) 342-7393; Fax: (202) 337-9251

Web Site: www.shm-us.org

E-mail address: info@shm-us.org

STUDY:

Pregnant women with swine flu more at risk

London -- Pregnant women who get swine flu are at least four times as likely to be hospitalized as other people with the virus, a new study says. While experts don't know if pregnant women are more susceptible to swine flu, they say once pregnant women are infected, they have a higher risk of complications.

Like the general population, most pregnant women who get swine flu only have mild symptoms like fever and a cough, according to the World Health Organization. Denise Jamieson of the U.S. CDC, the study's lead researcher, said the agency doesn't recommend any special precautions for pregnant women to avoid catching the virus.

But if pregnant women do get swine flu, Jamieson said doctors need to act fast, preferably within 48 hours of developing symptoms. "The message is don't delay appropriate treatment because she's pregnant," she said.

Health officials at WHO have previously reported that some doctors were reluctant to give the antiviral drug Tamiflu to pregnant women. While safety data on Tamiflu use in pregnant women is limited, Jamieson said it appears relatively safe.

U.S. guidelines list pregnant women as a high-priority group for pandemic vaccines, although that is for vaccines without adjuvants, ingredients used to stretch a vaccine's active ingredient. In the U.S., flu vaccines don't have adjuvants, but in Europe, many do. There is little data on how safe vaccines with adjuvants are in pregnant women.

The Washington Post, Wednesday, July 29, 2009; 5:48 AM



Ensuring the safety of pandemic vaccines

6 August 2009 -- WHO is aware of some media reports that have expressed concern about the safety of vaccines for pandemic influenza. The public needs to be reassured that regulatory procedures in place for the licensing of pandemic vaccines, including procedures for expediting regulatory approval, are rigorous and do not compromise safety or quality controls. For more information about the safety of vaccines, go to www.who.int

For the Preparation for the Hajj 1430H, 2009G Thermal cameras, more medics to limit flu spread

Speaking to the Council of Ministers Dr. Abdul Aziz Bin Abdullah Al-Rabeah said that the severity of the disease caused by H1N1 virus is "light or medium" in most of the people affected and that "the rate of recovery has reached more than 90 percent." According to Dr. Al-Rabeah the Kingdom has ordered four million doses of swine flu vaccine from international pharmaceutical companies to be delivered by the end of October.

Saudi Arabia has announced its fourteenth fatality from H1N1 since the first one on July 27th and by mid August the hospitals in the Kingdom have treated approximately 2,000 cases of swine flu.

Authorities will use thermal cameras and have more medics on stand-by as part of measures to limit swine flu during the Haj pilgrimage. Around 3 million pilgrims from more than 160 countries take part in the Haj in the holy city of Makkah most years, including up to two million who come from abroad. They mostly arrive by air in Jeddah. Jeddah's Haj airport terminal will have 20 thermal sensors to check pilgrims and 20 percent more specialist medical staff than last year.

Saudi Arabia has increased its stock of the antiviral drug Tamiflu by 20 percent, double the WHO recommendation for other countries, and urged pilgrims to take seasonal vaccines as well as the new H1N1 vaccine once available in the coming months. "The thermal cameras are not 100 percent effective. We know that 30 or 40 percent of the patients could be incubating and will pass by the camera and show symptoms a few days later," said Ziad Memish, Assistant Deputy Minister for Preventative Medicine at the Ministry of Health. The Health Ministry will also set up health centers near Jeddah and Madina airports with capacity to house up to 500 patients.

Although not directly related to Haj, the Health Ministry announced recently that it plans to establish an electronic network to improve communications between the Kingdom's 20 health districts to monitor swine flu incidents. The project includes 500 mobile surveillance machines distributed to physicians, medical support personnel and community leaders.

By Dr. Howaida Hashim (Selected from articles published by Saudi Gazette, Arab News and Reuters)

