

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 10, 2009 5:00 pm (ChST)
PHICC Release No.09-023

Department of Public Health and Social Services
H1N1 Precautionary Measures for Social Gatherings

To date Guam has 4 confirmed cases of Influenza A H1N1 virus. Surveillance and monitoring continues.

Social gatherings and cultural celebrations are common year-round on Guam, however with the confirmed cases of Influenza A H1N1 virus on island DPHSS encourages individuals to practice personal hygiene and adopt the following guidelines to control the spread in gatherings like fiestas, mass, and weddings, etc.

- Persons with influenza-like illness (ILI) (i.e., fever with either cough or sore throat) should be advised to stay home for 7 days after the onset of illness or at least 24 hours after symptoms have resolved, whichever is longer.
- Persons at risk of developing complications from H1N1 influenza should consider staying away from public gatherings. (Examples of persons at risk include those with certain medical conditions such as diabetes, asthma, emphysema, immunosuppressive conditions, heart conditions, as well as children less than 5 years of age, and pregnant women).

If you are hosting an event such as a party, wedding or conference, you are encouraged to consider the following recommendations to help reduce the risk of spreading further illness

- Make hand washing facilities widely available at the event with soap and running water,
- Make available hand sanitizers, tissues, and trash receptacles to dispose of tissue.

For more information, please visit the Centers for Disease Control Website at www.cdc.gov, the Department of Public Health and Social Services website at www.dphss.guam.gov or Guam Homeland Security/Office of Civil Defense website at www.guamhs.org. You may also call the Information Line at 735-H1N1 (4161).