

## 8/26/09 UA H1N1 Flu Status Update #1

The UA Campus Health Service received confirmation on 8/26/09 from the Arizona State Laboratory that 13 out of 19 viral culture specimens collected over the past week and a half from students with flu like symptoms have tested positive for the novel H1N1 strain of influenza. These results indicate that the H1N1 flu may be making a resurgence on the UA campus, but is just one of several respiratory virus infections that are circulating on campus at this time. It is not unusual for the Campus Health Service to see students coming in with respiratory infection symptoms this time of year. It is unusual to see influenza, which is why the Campus Health Service activated the flu surveillance system they have established with the Pima County Health Department and started sending specimens to the AZ State Lab for testing and confirmation. Even before receiving any confirmation results, the Campus Health Service began sending out flu prevention and management messages to affected subpopulations of the UA community based on their surveillance and were recommending social isolation for any students who came in or called in with flu like symptoms.

The Campus Health Service has seen approximately 12 cases consistent with the H1N1 flu over the late spring and summer. The recent increase in cases has been seen since last week, a week after students began returning to campus. The affected students have had a mild to moderate illness and the ones we have been able to follow up with are recovered or recovering from their illness. To our knowledge, there have been no hospitalizations.

Further updates on the status of novel H1N1 on campus will be posted regularly as new information is received or trends are recognized.