

Influenza A/H1N1 Update

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN MEXICO:

- The health alert in Mexico City dropped from red (very high) to orange (high). "This is a sign that Mexico City is successfully overcoming the Influenza crisis and that the preventative actions taken are producing positive results" said Mexico City Mayor, Marcelo Ebrad, to CNN.
- By 6:00 hours (GMT) on May 5, 1124 human cases have been confirmed in 21 countries. Mexico has the most cases with 727 confirmed tests including 26 deaths, followed by the United States with 286 confirmed cases and 1 death.
- The head of Mexico's Ministry of Health (SSA), Jose Angel Cordova, assured that current conditions allow business, commercial, academic and labor activities to resume this Wednesday, May 6 as originally planned.
- The Secretary of Finance, Agustin Carstens, announced a series of economic stimulants to help mitigate the negative effects seen in the economy due to the influenza break out.
- The President of the United States, Barack Obama, united with Mexico on Monday in a celebration at the White House commemorating the Battle of Puebla, expressing that he applauded "the Mexican government," and all the officials who have taken the necessary steps to confront the spread of this illness.

WHAT THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IS DOING:

- Cleaning and disinfecting of school facilities begin in the State of Mexico in preparation for an imminent return to school on Monday, May 11.
- The state of Baja California has opened 9 health units that will help detect influenza A/H1N1 cases.
- 25 cameras that measure body temperature will be installed in various stations in Mexico City's subway system. Body temperatures above 37.5°C (100°F) will be identified.
- To manage the distribution of antiviral medication for Influenza A/H1N1 - *Osetamivir* (Tamiflu) and *Zanamivir* (Relenza) - medication is strictly sold by prescription only.
- The government of Mexico City has supplied their metro police department with 220,000 face masks, disinfecting gels and bleach for proper cleaning of police cars.

TRAVEL TIPS

Mexico has implemented a series of key recommendations to control the transmission of the virus which are helping the country return to normality in record time. We suggest you follow these tips while in Mexico so that your stay be safe and enjoyable.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- If you experience Influenza-like symptoms please do not self-medicate, stay in your room and immediately contact your resort's doctor or nurse.
- Keep your hotel room well ventilated, allow the access of natural light, and if possible, keep the air-conditioning on at all times.
- Don't share food, drinks or silverware.
- If you travel with children, disinfect their toys often.
- Remember that many airlines are waiving their fees for changes in flight itineraries. Contact them if you wish you reschedule your return flight:

Mexicana Airlines: 01-800-801-2030

Aeromexico: 01-800-021-4000

American Airlines: 01-800-904-6000

Continental: 01-800-900-5000

FOR MORE INFORMATION WHILE IN MEXICO:

- Contact your Embassy or Consular Office in the destination where you are located.
- Number for tourism information and assistance from the U.S 1-800-44-MEXICO, from Europe 00 800-1111-2266, and from Mexico 078
- Ministry of Health call center 01-800-123-1010
- Visit the mexico-update page through www.visitmexico.com or directly at www.mexico-update.com
- Updates and complete information about Influenza A/H1N1 from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention are available at: www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu
- For health questions and concerns visit www.who.int