

H1N1 Influenza Update
From the University's H1N1 Coordinating Committee

October 21, 2009

There has been a slight increase in influenza-like illness (fever and cough and/or sore throat) during the past week in the URI community, according to Chad Henderson, director of URI Health Services and co-chair of the URI H1N1 Coordinating Committee.

Henderson reminds all to continue following the well-established prevention measures for all virus-like and other illnesses, including frequent hand washing; coughing/sneezing etiquette; refraining from touching face (eyes/nose/mouth); social distancing (avoiding those who have symptoms and not attending group events, classes, work if one has symptoms).

The Rhode Island Department of Health has informed University that it will not receive H1N1 vaccine until sometime in December. Also, Health Services has no seasonal flu vaccine and does not anticipate any being available in the near future. Any vaccine availability will be posted on the URI Health Services web page and the University's h1n1 site.

So anyone who has flu symptoms should remember to hydrate, get sleep, and stay away from others until they have had no fever for 24 hours. Individuals who experience increased heart rate, difficulty breathing, chest pain, confusion, severe or persistent vomiting, or have an underlying medical condition should consult their physician.

Students needing medical advice or assistance can call Health Services at 874-2675. The community may check the University's website established specifically for H1N1 updates: <http://www.uri.edu/news/h1n1.html>

"Again, we are doing well in dealing with the flu situation as a community. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of everyone," Henderson said.