

John Morley (Public Health Wales)

From: FOI (Public Health Wales)
Subject: FW: FOI 009 - H1N1 virus

Thank you for your request for information regarding H1N1 virus which we received on 25th February 2016.

I am pleased to enclose the information you requested.

The majority of patients who are infected with influenza will not undergo subsequent laboratory testing to confirm whether it is due to influenza and which virus type caused the infection.

Since October 1st 2015, there have been 317 patients in Wales confirmed to have influenza by Public Health Wales Microbiology laboratories; of whom 225 were confirmed to have influenza A(H1N1)pdm09, the virus that used to be referred to as 'swine flu'. Please see the links below for further explanation on the name and its significance:
http://www.who.int/influenza/qisrs_laboratory/terminology_ah1n1pdm09/en/
<https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2016/01/28/why-swine-flu-is-now-considered-a-normal-seasonal-flu-strain/>

Usually only patients who present with influenza symptoms within hospitals or the small number of sentinel GP practices throughout Wales would be laboratory tested. Diagnosed cases of influenza-like illness in patients in the community are reported to Public Health Wales each week, although only a very small number of these will provide specimens for laboratory testing.

Since the start of September 2015, there have been 5,353 cases of influenza-like illness recorded in general practices throughout Wales and reported to Public Health Wales. Not all of these cases of influenza-like illness would be due to influenza, because there are a number of other infections which can lead to patients presenting to GPs with similar symptoms. However, of the cases that were due to influenza, it is likely that the majority of them would have been caused by influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 as this is the virus that has dominated the 2015-16 influenza season in the UK and Europe. The total number of recorded influenza-like illness cases reported by GPs to Public Health Wales so far this season, is lower than the number of recorded cases reported during the same period in 2014-15 (6,285). During the 2014-15 influenza season, the dominant type of influenza in the UK was influenza A(H3).

If you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the address given.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of the decision, you should write to the Corporate Complaints Manager, Public Health Wales NHS Trust, Unit 1 Charnwood Court, Heol Billingsley, Parc Nantgarw Cardiff, CF15 7QZ.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner for Wales
2nd Floor
Churchill House
Churchill Way
Cardiff
CF10 2HH

Telephone: 029 2067 8400
Email: wales@ico.org.uk

Regards

Jane Evans

Rheolwr Gwybodaeth Trefn Lywodraethol a Gwerthuso, Adran Sgrinio, Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru, 18 Ffordd yr Eglwys Gadeiriol, Caerdydd CF11 9LJ
Information Governance and Evaluation Manager, Screening Division, Public Health Wales, 18 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9LJ

Ffôn:/Tel: 029 2078 7818
Ebost/**Email:** jane.evans11@wales.nhs.uk

Rhyngwrwyd/**Internet:** www.iechydcyhoedduscymru.wales.nhs.uk/www.publichealthwales.org

From: Moscrop, Hannah (AM Support Staff, Janet Finch-Saunders) [<mailto:Hannah.Moscrop@assembly.wales>]
Sent: 25 February 2016 11:44
To: FOI (Public Health Wales)
Subject: FOI

Good morning,

Please could you answer the following:

Across Wales, how many people have been diagnosed with the H1NI virus, otherwise known as Swine Flu, from 1st September 2015 to date ?

Kind regards,

Hannah

Hannah Moscrop
Researcher / Ymchwilydd

on behalf of / ar ran

Janet Finch-Saunders A.M. / Janet Finch-Saunders A.C.
Shadow Minister for Local Government / *Gweinidog yr Wrthblaid dros Lywodraeth Leol*
Assembly Member for Aberconwy / *Aelod Cynulliad Aberconwy*

General Office/*Swyddfa gyffredinol:* 0300 200 7454



Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Welsh
Conservatives

CONFIDENTIALITY: This e-mail and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the recipient(s). Any review, transmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient(s) is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error please notify the sender immediately and destroy the material whether stored on a computer or otherwise.

CYFRINACHEDD: Mae'r e-bost hon, ac unrhyw ffeiliau cysylltiedig yn gyfrinachol a fwriadwyd at ddefnydd y derbynnydd yn unig. Mae unrhyw adolygiad, trosglwyddiad, lledaeniad neu unrhyw ddeunydd arall (sydd yn dibynnu ar y wybodaeth yma) gan berson neu endidau ac eithrio'r derbynnydd a fwriadwyd wedi'u wahardd. Os yr ydych wedi derbyn yr e-bost yma mewn camgymeriad, gadwch wybod i'r anfonwr ar unwaith a dinistriwch y defnydd os ydych chi storio ar gyfrifiaduwr neu fel arall os gwelwch yn dda.

DISCLAIMER: Any of the statements or comments made above should be regarded as personal and not necessarily those of the National Assembly for Wales, and constituent part or connected body.

YMWADIAD: Dylid ystyried unrhyw ddatganiad neu sylw a geir yn y neges hon fel un personol ac nid o reidrwydd yn fynegiant o safbwynt Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, unrhyw ran ohono neu unrhyw gorff cysylltiedig.

