

The following information has been provided by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

UPDATE

TO: HEALTH CARE WORKERS who provide CARE TO WOMEN WHO ARE PREGNANT OR IMMEDIATELY POSTPARTUM (within 6 weeks) or who may have information on pediatric deaths associated with influenza:

DATE: 10/23/09

Attention Health Care Providers:

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services is working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor severe influenza infection in pregnant and postpartum women and to report influenza-associated pediatric mortality. CDC has established a new clinical support line specifically to provide technical assistance to those who care for pregnant or immediately postpartum (within 6 weeks of delivery) women. That telephone number is 404-368-2133. Clinical support is available from Board certified OB/GYN subject matter experts 24/7. That number may also be used to report any pregnant or immediately postpartum patients who are admitted to an intensive care unit for treatment of any type of influenza or die from influenza. As a reminder, influenza-associated pediatric mortality is reportable within one day of suspicion to public health authorities in Missouri (<http://www.dhss.mo.gov/CommunicableDisease/>). This important public health effort cannot succeed without your help.

CDC has extensive guidance available on their website regarding the care and treatment of pregnant women. Please see the following links:

http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/clinician_pregnant.htm

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/recommendations.htm>

If you have questions about this guidance for pregnant women, you may call CDC at 404-368-2133 and you will be directed to a subject matter expert.

CDC has also updated guidances for the care of pediatric patients:

http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/recommendations_pediatric_supplement.htm

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For more information on influenza in Missouri, please see:

http://www.dhss.mo.gov/BT_Response/H1N1Flu.html