Reducing transmission of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 in school settings: A framework for national and local planning and response


Organizations:
WHO

Description:
Experience with pandemic (H1N1) 2009 in many countries has demonstrated the importance in some communities of schools in amplifying transmission of the pandemic virus – both within schools and the wider community. Transmission of epidemic seasonal influenza in school settings is well documented and can be explosive and fast moving, affecting a sizeable proportion of students and staff. Infection within schools is of considerable concern to parents as well as decision makers. A variety of options for reducing infection within schools are available and discussed in this document. This document outlines a framework for national and local health and school authorities to consider when developing pandemic planning and decision-making guidance to reduce school-associated pandemic (H1N1) 2009 infections. The framework is applicable to all levels of education ranging from primary to secondary school levels. It is not applicable to infant or other child-care settings or boarding/dormitory settings.

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