



Excellence in Employee Support Services

Information For Employers Planning For A Possible Flu Epidemic

Carebridge recognizes an increased need for assistance in identifying reliable sources of information as concerns grow regarding an expected flu outbreak. Businesses may anticipate increased requests from local, state, and national branches of the government to play an important social role in the prevention of illness should an outbreak occur. In addition, businesses may confront the intense needs of ill workers while dealing with increased absenteeism, decreased concentration on the job, supply disruption, and financial losses. Hospital systems will confront even more severe challenges. Whether your organization is at the start of planning for a possible pandemic or has already developed a contingency and communication plan, Carebridge is prepared to handle the emotional responses that you and your employees might encounter as the worst possibilities are considered. As Carebridge has demonstrated during times of national crises in the recent past, dependable information and real assistance is critical to supporting your employees and management team.

The websites listed below may provide some assistance as your organization considers proactive crisis leadership strategies in planning for a flu epidemic. In addition, Carebridge will provide updated resources and information on this topic at My Life Resource Online, www.myliferesource.com.

General Information: Know the Facts and Stay Updated

1. H1N1 Flu information from the Centers for Disease Control
<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>
2. Global Alert and Response from the World Health Organization
<http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>
3. Links to State Health Departments
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/international/relres.html>
4. Information and links to other relevant websites
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/h1n1fluswineflu.html>

For Businesses: Establish a Corporate Pandemic Influenza Plan

1. Business Pandemic Influenza Planning Checklist
PDF version <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/pdf/businesschecklist.pdf>
Website version <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/businesschecklist.html>
2. Pandemic Influenza information from the U. S. Department of Labor
<http://www.osha.gov/dsg/topics/pandemicflu/index.html>
3. Travel Warnings from the State Department regarding specific countries will be posted here.
http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html
4. Stopping the Spread of Germs at Work
<http://www.cdc.gov/germstopper/pdf/work.pdf>

For Families: Develop a Family Safety Plan

1. Family Emergency Health Information Sheet summarizes health information and emergency contacts
<http://www.pandemicflu.gov/planguide/familyhealthinfo.html>
2. Pandemic Flu Planning Checklist for Individuals and Families
<http://pandemicflu.gov/plan/pdf/individuals.pdf>