

No. 11/58/59002
Date: 07/08/1430

Very Urgent Fax Memo

Sub: Updated (H1N1) Measures

To HE the Director General of Health Affairs in the Provinces of: Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Al-Madeenah Al-Munuwarah, Qaseem, Riyadh, Eastern Province, Northern Borders, Hail, Aseer, Al-Baha, Najran, Jazan, Tabuk, Al-Joaf

To HE The Director of Health Affairs in the Districts of: Jeddah, Taif, Hafr Al-Baten, Ahsa, Beeshah, Qunfuthah, Qurayat

Dear,

Ref to our memo No. 19/56635, dated 28/07/1430, regarding H1N1 reports and lab tests, and as the National Scientific Committee for Contagious Diseases has recommended that measures adopted should concentrate on certain categories, whether by reporting, treatment, diagnosis, or monitoring at the openings, we hope you notify your specialists to the following:

1- The Daily Report

- Reporting must be confined to confirmed cases recorded on the previous day. It must be made on the forms attached to the memo referred to above.
- Reports must be sent daily (Saturday through Wednesday), in a time not later than 11:00am, provided the Saturday report shall include Thursday and Friday reports.
- Please confirm your officials that reports on suspected cases are not required, with the exception of critical cases. Specialists in each province are expected to coordinate with the laboratories to which the samples have been sent.

- The disease progress for critical cases (with pneumonia for example) at the Intensive Care Units of any government or private hospital must be included in the Daily report.
- Death cases must be reported promptly through fax during office hours or by phone to Dr. Rafat bin Faisal Al-Hakeem (0505421326), Dr. Ahmed bin Nasser Al-Khilaidi (0505619292) or Dr. Muslim Yunus Abu Hasan (0504858325).
- Physicians at government or private hospitals must be confirmed to treat as suspect any disease case admitted to Intensive Care Units with symptoms such as pneumonia. Samples must be taken in such cases and treatment offered (including Tamiflu), and the case must be reported to your office, and from you to the MOH Directorate of Contagious Diseases.

2- Cases to be tested at laboratories:

- People arriving at the openings from outside the Kingdom with high body temperature (38° C or above) and H1N1 symptoms must contact the airport clinic for routine tests.
- Residents or those arriving to the Kingdom within 7 days prior to the report date shall be tested in cases of high body temperature (38° C or above) and appearance of H1N1 symptoms.
- Health workers with high body temperature (38° C or above) and symptoms of the disease.

3- Thermal Cameras:

Thermal cameras are to be placed in entry openings of pilgrims and Omrah performers (Pilgrims Hall of King Abdul Aziz airport in Jeddah, Prince Mohammed bin Abdul Aziz in Al-Madeenah Al-Munawarah, Jeddah Islamic Port, and Yanbu Port). Other openings are exempted from temperature or spectroscopic tests

unless flu symptoms are detected, in case of which the patient will be transferred to the airport clinic.

4- Treatment

- a- Cases not necessitating admission to hospitals would be treated with tranquilizers, temperature lowering drugs, or by isolation.
- b- Antiviral treatment (such as Tamiflu) would be offered to high risk patients, (Patients with chronic pulmonary, cardiac, hepatic, renal or nervous diseases, patients with AIDS, diabetics suffering complications, patients with metabolic diseases, or pregnant women) during 48 hours following the onset of the disease.
- c- Health workers with high body temperature (38° C or above) and symptoms of the disease would give nasal or throat samples for analysis. They would be pardoned from work (stayed at home) and provided antiviral treatment till test results appear. This home stay would continue till all symptoms disappear (or for at least 5 days).
 - Health workers who are in contact with positive cases would continue their work, but abandoned from cancer or AIDS patients. Section C will be applied in case they develop H1N1 symptoms.
 - Health workers who are in contact with high risk groups referred to above would be provided antiviral treatment. They would be isolated during treatment, whether their cases are in hospital or home.
 - Health workers who are in contact with positive but not high risk cases would be isolated in hospital or home if their cases necessitate. They would be provided antiviral treatment in case they develop H1N1 symptoms.

5- Hospitals would be allowed to use both antiviral drugs (Tamiflu and Rilinza).

Hoping all officials at government and private hospitals are confirmed accordingly.

Best Regards,

Dr. Ziad bin Ahmed Meemish
Assistant Minister for Preventive Medicine