



CHESLEY BROWN  
INTERNATIONAL

# E-Briefs

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## SPECIAL ALERT - Update on Swine Influenza

Today, the World Health Organization elevated its pandemic level to Phase 6; the first time it has done so since the Hong Kong flu of 1968. Phase 6, the pandemic phase, is characterized by community level outbreaks in at least one other country in a different WHO region in addition to the criteria defined in **Phase 5**. Designation of this phase will indicate that a global pandemic is under way. The WHO noted that increasing the alert to Phase 6 does not mean that the disease is deadlier or more dangerous than before, just that it has spread to more countries. At this early stage, the pandemic can be characterized globally as being moderate in severity," WHO said in a statement, urging nations not to close borders or restrict travel and trade. "(We) remain in close dialogue with influenza vaccine manufacturers."

During a flu pandemic, you can use simple actions to help protect yourself and others from becoming sick with the flu. No single action protects completely. If used together, the steps below can help reduce the chances of becoming infected. The WHO makes the following recommendations:

The main route of transmission of the new influenza A(H1N1) virus seems to be similar to seasonal influenza, via droplets that are expelled by speaking, sneezing or coughing. You can prevent getting infected by avoiding close contact with people who show influenza-like symptoms (trying to maintain a distance of about 3 feet if possible) and taking the following measures:

- avoid touching your mouth and nose;
- clean hands thoroughly with soap and water, or cleanse them with an alcohol-based hand rub on a regular basis (especially if touching the mouth and nose, or surfaces that are potentially contaminated);
- avoid close contact with people who might be ill;
- reduce the time spent in crowded settings if possible;
- improve airflow in your living space by opening windows;
- practice good health habits including adequate sleep, eating nutritious food, and keeping physically active.

You will not be able to tell the difference between seasonal flu and influenza A(H1N1) without medical help. Typical symptoms to watch for are similar to seasonal viruses and include fever, cough, headache, body aches, sore throat and runny nose. Only your medical practitioner and local health authority can confirm a case of influenza A(H1N1).

If you feel unwell, have a high fever, cough or sore throat:

- stay at home and keep away from work, school or crowds;
- rest and take plenty of fluids;
- cover your nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing and, if using tissues, make sure you dispose of them carefully. Clean your hands immediately after with soap and water or cleanse them with an alcohol-based hand rub;
- if you do not have a tissue close by when you cough or sneeze, cover your mouth as much as possible with the crook of your elbow;
- use a mask to help you contain the spread of droplets when you are around others, but be sure to do so correctly;
- inform family and friends about your illness and try to avoid contact with other people;
- If possible, contact a health professional before traveling to a health facility to discuss whether a medical examination is necessary.

WHO provides the following guidelines regarding using a mask:

- If you are not sick you do not have to wear a mask.
- If you are caring for a sick person, you can wear a mask when you are in close contact with the ill person and dispose of it immediately after contact, and cleanse your hands thoroughly afterwards.
- If you are sick and must travel or be around others, cover your mouth and nose.
- Using a mask correctly in all situations is essential. Incorrect use actually increases the chance of spreading infection.

## NEWS YOU CAN USE 10 Tips for Swine Flu Planning

Companies and IT executives should examine their pandemic plans and prepare for the possibility of widespread employee absenteeism. Executives should stay calm and continue to be productive while practicing better hygiene as a model for their employees. All executives should be involved in planning for a pandemic, which involves the entire business. Emergency contacts and calling systems should be updated and tested, and companies should make sure they will have access to their data centers. Experts recommend that businesses perform a trial run of their telework plans and system to ensure a large number of staff can use it at the same time. Key employees should have broadband access, such as through mobile data cards, and Web-based applications should be up-to-date. Companies may want to cross-train their employees so they have enough people with the necessary skills and certifications to keep critical applications up and running, an important detail in regulated industries such as banking. A degradation plan, including lines of succession, will help companies prepare for the possibility of operating with far fewer employees. Executives also need to remember to ensure the safety of employees first before thinking about how the business will function in an emergency.

Chesley Brown International has action plans in place to deal with many various emergency situations should they develop. Similar to our Security Condition levels, these plans feature progressive steps and measures to be implemented to secure our facilities should an outbreak occur at the state, city, or local levels around facilities, or even within the facilities themselves. We are also monitoring updates from the World Health Organization and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from two National Command Centers.

Chesley Brown security levels are SecCon 1, SecCon 2, SecCon 3, and SecCon 4, with SecCon 1 being the highest level of threat and SecCon 4 being no external threat present. SecCon 2 and SecCon 3 are gradient increases in security from SecCon 4, but not as restrictive as SecCon 1. Each level has specific security measures to be implemented or discontinued according to the level indicated. Prior to 9/11, Chesley Brown implemented four levels of security operational conditions to meet external threats or potential threats to a Chesley Brown property or facility. We were the only security company with a structure in place where each of our properties were notified by the Chesley Brown National Command Center to maintain a pre-determined and planned heightened level of security immediately after the second plane crashed on 9/11.

### ALERTS



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## Security Condition SecCon 3



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