

Circular no 2009/33

All provincial secretaries,
All Directors of Provincial Education
The Director General, National Institute of Education
Commissioner General of Examinations
Commissioner General Department of Education Publication
All Directors of Zonal Education
All Directors of Divisional Education
All Faculty Deans of National Colleges of Education
All Principals of Teacher Training Colleges
All Chief Reverent of Pirivena
All Principals of Schools

Facing the possibility of spreading new influenza A/H1N1 at an epidemic level.

It has been confirmed that a number of school children have been infected with the new influenza A/ H1N1 disease.

The possibility of spreading this disease in Educational Institutions is very high due to crowding in those premises.

Therefore all schools and educational institutions should follow the following precautionary measures in relation to the new influenza A/H1N1 epidemic.

- 1. Take steps to create awareness in students, staff and parents through Medical Health Officers
- If there are students and teachers suffering from breathing difficulties (fever and cough, pain in the throat, common cold, breathing difficulties) advice them to get treatment from a hospital mentioned in Annex 1 and keep away from school until they are fully cured.

- If there is a student or a teacher who has been identified as infected by this disease, they should be advised to remain at home, restrict movements out of home and avoid crowded places.
- 4. If A/H1N1 infected persons are identified in a school or in an educational institution the advice of the Medical Health Officer closest to the school should be sought in order to prevent the disease from spreading in the school and the community; if the situation is serious only make arrangement to close the school / educational institution with the approval of the relevant educational authorities.

Please follow the above instructions to avoid an epidemic situation.

Some instructions issued by the Ministry of Health in this regards are attached.

MMND Bandara Secretary

Ministry of Education

Copy: Secretary, Ministry of Health Care & Nutrition.

Hospitals that have facilities for an Epidemic of New Influenza A/H1N1

1. Infective Disease Hospital - Angoda 2. Lady Ridgway Hospital - Borella 3. National Hospital - Colombo 4. Teaching Hospital - Kalubovila 5. Teaching Hospital - Ragama 6. Teaching Hospital - Karapitiya, Galle 7. Teaching Hospital - Rathnapura 8. Teaching Hospital - Kurunegala 9. Teaching Hospital - Iaffna 10. Teaching Hospital - Batticaloa 11. Teaching Hospital - Peradeniva 12. General Hospital - Sri Jayawardhanapura 13. General Hospital - Badulla 14. General Hospital - Ampara 15. General Hospital - Anuradhapura 16. General Hospital - Matara 17. Base Hospital - Chilaw 18. Base Hospital - Polonnaruwa 19. Base Hospital - Nuwara Eliya

Institutions which can get required details

20. Base Hospital

- Epidemiology Unit Ministry of Health Care & Nutrition De Seram Place, Colombo 10 Telephone – 0112681548, 0112695112
- Health Education Bureau Ministry of Health Care & Nutrition Kinsey Road, Colombo 08 Telephone – 0221692613

- Vavuniya

 School Health Unit, Family Health Bureau De Seram Place, Colombo 10 Telephone – 0112692746