

H1N1 (SWINE) FLU UPDATE

At the time of *Preparing for the Unpredictable* production in early 2009, the pandemic alert issued by the World Health Organization (WHO) was at phase 3. Due to the current H1N1 (swine) flu epidemic, the six tier alert has been raised to phase 6 and the WHO has now declared a global pandemic. This is the first pandemic since 1968, in which the 'Hong Kong flu' was responsible for nearly 1 million deaths.

For the most up-to-date information, refer to the following websites:

- www.cdc.gov
- www.pandemicflu.gov
- www.who.int

The Risk Management department developed a comprehensive toolkit called *Preparing for the Unpredictable* which contains essential resources to assist with developing your office's pandemic influenza response plan. In addition to addressing potential pandemics, the toolkit contains information and blueprints for creating or improving your office's disaster plan.

To request a hard copy of *Preparing for the Unpredictable*, [click here](#). This toolkit can be accessed online by Medical Mutual insureds [here](#). If you would like become insured by Medical Mutual, please see [this page](#) containing contact information for an Account Manager.