

London Flu Response Centre



Letter to all GPs in London
All out of hours services
A&E departments
Walk in centres

31 May 2009

Dear Colleague

INFLUENZA A H1N1 (SWINE FLU) AT ETON COLLEGE

One confirmed case and seven probable cases of swine flu have now been reported at Eton College. In addition there are 25 possible cases. It is now clear that there is widespread transmission in the school and the HPA has decided to offer antiviral prophylaxis for all students and staff at the school. The purpose of this is to minimise the likelihood of further spread of the virus to students and the families not already affected.

As you may be aware, the school closed this week after the confirmed case was reported and students sent home. A significant number of students live in London. Special arrangements have been set up to run a clinic at which oseltamivir prophylaxis will be offered to students resident in London. The details of these clinics are being finalised and information about them will be posted on the Eton College website (www.etoncollege.com).

It is possible that some parents will not be able to attend the clinics and may approach you for oseltamivir. Please contact the London Flu Response Centre (0845 425 1752) to discuss.

Students may also present with symptoms. Please assess them according to the clinical criteria in the HPA S5 algorithm and if they meet the clinical criteria for swine flu infection and are students or staff at Eton College, please contact the London Flu Response Centre to discuss swabbing and treatment.

If a student or staff member presents who has been symptomatic since May13, but who is now better, then please advise them that oseltamivir prophylaxis is not recommended for them as it is likely that they have already had swine flu infection.

If you have any queries about this, please contact the London Flu Response Centre. Please be advised that the line is likely to be extremely busy on Sunday and Monday.
Thank you for your assistance with this.

Yours faithfully

Dr Rachel Heathcock
Consultant in Communicable Disease Control