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SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS  
COMMUNICATIONS

# NEWS

CONTACT: SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS 316-660-9370 FAX: 316-383-7509

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact:**

Jenni (Gluszek) McCausland  
Kristi Zukovich  
316-660-9370

**SEDGWICK COUNTY ANNOUNCES FIRST DEATH OF INDIVIDUAL  
WITH H1N1 VIRUS (SWINE FLU)**

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) – A Sedgwick County adult has died from a chronic medical condition who was also infected with the H1N1 virus (swine flu). The Sedgwick County Health Department is working with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to investigate the case and has been in contact with family members. To date, there have been 249 confirmed illnesses from swine flu virus in Kansas, including 30 illnesses in Sedgwick County.

“Our hearts go out to the victim’s family,” Sedgwick County Health Department Director Claudia Blackburn said. “This death is a sad reminder of the serious threat posed by the H1N1 virus.”

There is currently no vaccine available to protect against the H1N1 virus, but there are actions that people can take to help prevent the spread of germs:

- Cover your mouth and nose with tissue when coughing and sneezing
- Wash your hands often
- Stay home when you are sick
- Keep your hands away from your mouth and nose

- more -

The symptoms of H1N1 are:

- Runny nose
- Sore throat
- Diarrhea
- Fever
- Lethargy
- Lack of appetite
- Coughing
- Nausea
- Vomiting

Individuals should see his/her healthcare provider if he/she is very sick with the symptoms. The Sedgwick County Health Department is coordinating with state and federal agencies in conducting H1N1 virus surveillance and implementing measures to lessen its impact. Residents should monitor news reports and check the County Web site at [www.sedgwickcounty.org](http://www.sedgwickcounty.org) for additional information.

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