

Countywide Services Agency

Department of
Health and Human Services

Division of Public Health
Glennah Trochet, M.D.
County Health Officer



County of Sacramento

Terry Schutten, County Executive

Jim Hunt, Acting Agency
Administrator

Ann Edwards-Buckley, Acting
Department Director

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Media Contact: Kerry Shearer
(916) 875-4493

Public Health Update

In addition to the one sample from a student at St. Mel's school in Fair Oaks that was sent to the Centers for Disease Control on Saturday April 25 for additional testing, on Sunday, April 26, Sacramento County Public Health identified three additional children at St. Mel school in Fair Oaks who were ill during the week of April 20 through April 24.

Samples from all three children will be tested at the Sacramento County Public Health Laboratory today.

If any of these samples turn out to be an un-subtypable Influenza A virus, the sample will be sent to the State Public Health Lab and to CDC for identification.

One child has recovered completely, the other two children still had symptoms yesterday. All illnesses have been mild.

At this time, the last onset of symptoms for an influenza-like illness in students of St. Mel school was Thursday, April 23. Therefore the earliest the school would reopen is Thursday, April 30. However, if we identify other onset of illness the opening may be postponed.

Sacramento County Health Officer Dr. Glennah Trochet says there are three things the public should do at this time:

"We continue to recommend the same, prudent precautions to the public that we always recommend during the flu season: that everyone should wash their hands frequently, stay home from work or school if they feel ill, and cover their mouths with a tissue if they are coughing," Trochet said.

Public Health has posted helpful links to swine flu information at CDC and California Department of Public Health web sites on its own web site: www.SCPH.com. And Twitter users can sign up to receive periodic messages and advisories at www.Twitter.com/SacPublicHealth.

NOTE TO MEDIA: Dr. Trochet will be available to update the media today at 3:30 PM at the Sacramento County Department of Health & Human Services, 7001-A East Parkway, Sacramento. Directions: Southbound 99 to Florin Road west offramp; right at the first light (East Parkway); and right into our parking lot with the black iron fence around it. Go in the main entrance marked 7001-A and enter Conference Room 1.