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Health Commissioner
Board of Health
City of Cincinnati

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cincinnati Is Monitoring National Outbreak of Swine Flu

Cincinnati – Health Commissioner Dr. Noble Maseru and The Cincinnati Health Department is monitoring the global swine flu investigation and are in close contact with Cincinnati Mayor Mark Mallory's Office and City Manager Milton Dohoney. The Department is in constant communication with public health partners at the county, state, federal and even global levels. They are also in contact with hospitals, schools and health professionals in Cincinnati.

As of today the Centers for Disease Control has confirmed forty cases of swine flu virus infection in the United States, including one in northern Ohio.

The Cincinnati Health Department would like to remind the public: Keep Calm.

The national cases identified so far have been mild. There have been no confirmed cases locally and no fatalities.

Cincinnati has a practiced plan.

While no pandemic has been confirmed, the regional health partners have practiced a plan for years in the event a flu pandemic reaches our area.

Here's what you can do:

- If you are experiencing flu like symptoms you should see your physician and limit contact with others.
- The symptoms of swine flu in people are similar to the symptoms of regular human flu and include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people have reported diarrhea and vomiting. In the past, severe illness (pneumonia and respiratory failure) and deaths have been reported with swine flu infection in people.

(Over)

There are everyday actions people can take to stay healthy.

- Hand Sanitizer should be placed in areas where there is a lot of public interaction.
 - Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
 - Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
 - Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
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- Call the Health Department hotline at 357-7499 or check the city's website at www.cincinnati-oh.gov for more information,

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