



***** PARAMEDIC ALERT *****

No. 2009-05

Topic: PANDEMIC INFLUENZA URGENT UPDATE

Effective: October 23, 2009

Status: **Urgent**

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

Cal OSHA, in conjunction with the CDC, has changed their respiratory protection requirements for health care providers treating patients with influenza like illness (ILI):

N95 mask (or more protective mask) are now required for all ILI contacts. Regular surgical mask are no longer considered appropriate for health care providers to wear in ILI cases. Regular surgical mask are still appropriate to place on ILI patients.

The Pandemic Influenza Field Policy has been updated with this change and some other revisions. Please follow this link and familiarize yourself with the changes:

http://www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/ems/pdf/Field_Policies/pp_PANDEMIC_INFLUENZA.pdf

The Cal OSHA policy can be viewed at:

http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/SwineFlu/Interim_enforcement_H1N1.pdf

Thank you for your cooperation.