



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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H1N1 INFLUENZA DEATH IN KANAWHA COUNTY

The Kanawha-Charleston Health Department (KCHD) confirms influenza A related death at a Kanawha County Hospital on October 31, 2009. A 58 year-old female Kanawha County resident passed away from complications of influenza at a Kanawha County hospital last night. This person's rapid screening test was positive for influenza A earlier in the week. While confirmatory results for this individual are not available, regional data shows that more than 99 percent of such circulating influenza A viruses are currently being confirmed as 2009 H1N1 (swine-origin) influenza A. This is the 1st death at a Kanawha County hospital and 6th death associated with H1N1 reported in West Virginia. "We mourn the loss of our County resident and while tragic it reinforces why the H1N1 vaccination efforts are so important" Dr. Rahul Gupta, Kanawha-Charleston Health Department Health Officer states.

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