

**H1N1 “THE LITERATURE” – THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE
JUNE 12, 2009****JOURNALS SCANNED:**

- American Journal of Public Health
- British Medical Journal
- Emerging Infectious Diseases
- Clinical Infectious Diseases
- Journal of Infectious Diseases
- Lancet
- MMWR
- Nature
- New England Journal of Medicine
- PLoS One
- Science

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

- Nothing new since May 21

BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL

- Monitoring public anxiety about the flu. (*Petrie and Faasse. June 11, 2009*)

<http://blogs.bmj.com/bmj/2009/06/11/keith-j-petrie-and-kate-faasse-monitoring-public-anxiety-about-flu/>

Greater monitoring of the web could provide a guide to public anxiety about flu outbreaks and social media could be used more intensively to provide relevant public health information to younger groups.

- WHO declares a world pandemic (*John Zarocostas. June 12, 2009*)

http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/338/jun12_1/b2425?q=g_bmj_all

The head of the World Health Organization has declared the first influenza pandemic in 41 years after intense consultations with top officials from countries that are experiencing rapid transmission of the novel A (H1N1) flu virus at the community level, and with international experts monitoring the global outbreak.

EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

- Use of revised international health regulations during Influenza A (H1N1) epidemic, 2009 (*Rebecca Katz. August 2009*)

<http://www.cdc.gov/eid/content/15/8/pdfs/09-0665.pdf>

Strong international health agreements and good planning created a structure and common procedure for nations involved in detection and evaluation of the emergence of influenza A (H1N1). This report describes a timeline of events that led to the determination of the epidemic as a public health emergency of international concern, following the agreed upon procedures of the International Health Regulations. These events illustrate the need for sound international health agreements and should be a call to action for all nations to implement these agreements to the best of their abilities.

- Reproducibility of serologic assays for Influenza A (H5N1). *Stephenson et al. August 2009 (Epub ahead of print)*

<http://www.cdc.gov/eid/content/15/8/pdfs/08-1754.pdf>

Hemagglutination-inhibition (HI) and neutralization are used to evaluate vaccines against influenza virus A (H5N1); however, poor standardization leads to interlaboratory variation of results.

CLINICAL INFECTIOUS DISEASES

- Nothing new on H1N1 since last week

JOURNAL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

- Randomized, Double-Blind Controlled Phase 3 Trial Comparing the Immunogenicity of High-Dose and Standard-Dose Influenza Vaccine in Adults 65 Years of Age and Older / (*Falsey et al. June 9, 2009*)

<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/full/10.1086/599790>

A multicenter, randomized, double-blind controlled study was conducted to compare HD vaccine (which contains 60 µg of hemagglutinin per strain) with the licensed standard-dose (SD) vaccine (which contains 15 µg of hemagglutinin per strain) in adults ≥65 years of age.

- The Imperative of Influenza Vaccines for Elderly Individuals—An Evolving Story (*Gregory A. Poland and Mark J. Mulligan. June 9, 2009*)

<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/full/10.1086/599791>

If past history is predictive, during the 2009–2010 influenza season ~1 out of every 8333 Americans will die as a result of influenza and its complications. Although influenza kills ~36,000 Americans every year, >90% of those deaths occur among individuals aged ≥65 years [1]. A long-standing recommendation in the United States has been to administer influenza vaccine to those aged ≥65 years on an annual basis.

LANCET AND LANCET INFECTIOUS DISEASES

- Nothing new on H1n1 since last issue

MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY REPORT MMWR

- Nothing new on H1N1 in the past week

NATURE

- Watch your back [Editorial] June 10, 2009

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v459/n7248/full/459751b.html>

The H1N1 flu epidemic is not the world's only disease threat. If you are a health official facing two highly contagious diseases — one that is already killing dozens of people, and another that threatens to kill people by the thousands or millions, but hasn't yet done so — how do you allocate your resources? The answer can be a difficult balancing act, as the situation in China is showing.

NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE (NEJM)

- Early Release: Emergence of a Novel Swine-Origin Influenza A (H1N1) Virus in Humans
(*Novel Swine-Origin Influenza A (H1N1) Virus Investigation Team. June 10, 2009*)

<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/NEJMoa0903810v3>

On April 15 and April 17, 2009, novel swine-origin influenza A (H1N1) virus (S-OIV) was identified in specimens obtained from two epidemiologically unlinked patients in the United States. The same strain of the virus was identified in Mexico, Canada, and elsewhere. We describe 642 confirmed cases of human S-OIV infection identified from the rapidly evolving U.S. outbreak.

- Correspondence: Antibodies against H5 and H9 Avian Influenza among Poultry Workers in China. June 11, 2009

<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/360/24/2583>

Human infection with the H5N1 or H9N2 avian influenza virus has been reported in the city of Guangzhou in southern China.^{1,2} To assess the risk of avian influenza virus infection among humans, we conducted a serologic surveillance study in Guangzhou.

PLOS ONE

- A Statistical Framework for the Adaptive Management of Epidemiological Interventions
(*Merl, et al. June 10, 2009*)

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0005807>

Using simulation studies based on a classic influenza outbreak, we demonstrate the advantages of adaptive interventions over non-adaptive ones, in terms of cost and resource efficiency, and robustness to model misspecification.

SCIENCE

- Nothing new on H1N1 since June 4, 2009