



## TDOC's Precautions for Influenza

Every prison facility should be on high alert for signs and symptoms of the seasonal and H1N1 flu viruses. Each clinic must enforce ongoing monitoring of the offender population, staff and visitors. Symptoms include: fever greater than 100.4°F with the presence of either cough, sore throat, loss of appetite or shortness of breath.

Each prison facility shall implement the following **Pandemic Influenza Precautions** in an ongoing effort to promote health and contain flu transmission:

1. Hand hygiene:
  - wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough, sneeze, or use the bathroom
  - the use of hand sanitizer is strongly encouraged
  - avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with your hands
2. Respiratory etiquette: When possible, cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze (cough or sneeze into a shirtsleeve if a tissue is not available).
3. Conduct frequent environmental cleaning of "high touch" surfaces:
  - Increase daily facility cleaning
  - Ensure that proper sanitizing and disinfecting procedures are followed throughout all areas of the facility including handrails, doorknobs, restrooms, elevator buttons, telephones, computer keyboards, exam tables, clinical instruments, etc.
4. Post educational posters throughout the facility to keep offenders, employees, and visitors aware of the signs and symptoms of flu, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette.
5. Enforce intensive influenza screening of inmates at reception centers and in sick call.