

H1N1 NOVEL INFLUENZA VIRUS UPDATE

September 24, 2009

1. Education and Information Updates

- a. The College will continue an aggressive education campaign to promote good hygiene and to increase awareness of the steps everyone should take to prevent the spread of H1N1.
- b. A special web page (<http://www.landmark.edu/pandemic-flu/index.cfm>) contains information and guidance. We will communicate regularly with the campus community via this site and other channels, including residential staff, email, posters, and campus mail.

2. Hand Hygiene and Environmental Control

- a. Hand-sanitizing stations are available throughout the campus to allow students and staff to sanitize their hands with an antiseptic emollient.
- b. Our Facilities department will continue to ensure a high standard of cleaning practices with germicides and disinfectants that are effective in killing the influenza virus.
- c. Students and staff are encouraged to clean personal areas, including counters, door knobs, keyboards, handles, bathrooms, and other spaces that can harbor germs.

3. Vaccination

- a. A vaccine for H1N1 will become available this fall, and when it does, the Health Center will begin offering the vaccine to members of the campus community. The H1N1 vaccine will be administered to the Landmark campus community in accordance with the CDC's recommendations with respect to the groups at highest risk.
- b. The single best way to prevent *seasonal flu* is to get vaccinated each year. The College will be sponsoring a *seasonal influenza* vaccine clinic on campus for students on Friday October 2nd, from 12:00-2:00 p.m., and again on Monday October 5th, from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. in the dining hall. The fee for this vaccination can be charged to student's College debit account.

4. Keeping Those with Flu Away From Others

- a. To limit the spread of H1N1, the CDC recommends that those who have a flu-like illness (cough, fever, sore throat, and congestion) stay away from other people as much as possible for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever or signs of a fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicines).
- b. Any student that has flu-like symptoms (fever of 100° or more, cough and/or sore throat) should report to Health Services for evaluation.
- c. The College suggests that students with H1N1/flu-like symptoms consider returning home or to homes of relatives or friends to recuperate and limit the spread of transmission.
 - i. Until these students can leave campus, they will be reassigned to specific isolation areas to limit their contact with other students and monitored as necessary.
 - ii. Students who are not able to travel home will remain in the isolation areas for at least 24 hours after they are free of fever.
- d. College employees who have H1N1 will be advised to remain at home for at least 24 hours after they are free of fever.

5. Social Distancing

- a. If extreme circumstances warrant, the College may take action to limit close social contact among individuals in large-group settings. Cancellation of sporting events, social events, and other gatherings will be considered.
- b. It also is possible, based on new information and recommendations from the CDC and the Vermont Department of Health, that the College would suspend operations for a period of time. To plan ahead for this contingency, students and families should review their evacuation plan that all students were required to develop and submit to the college.

6. Continued Monitoring

- a. Pandemic preparedness strategies will help to reduce to the transmission of H1N1 if there is an outbreak on campus. Landmark will continue to monitor the novel H1N1 virus, and our plan to respond to H1N1 flu on our campus will remain flexible as new information becomes available and guidance from the CDC is amended.
- b. The College's Emergency Response Team, which includes representatives of every executive leadership sector on campus, will continue meeting regularly to discuss and implement policies and recommendations to ensure an effective response to H1N1.

Through periodic emails and regular updates we will update parents, students and all members of our campus community about any changes in our plans as we monitor H1N1 at Landmark and in our surrounding communities.

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