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CMS Guidance to Surveyors Regarding H1N1 Flu (Swine Flu)

ABSTRACT: CMS issues surveyor guidance regarding H1N1 flu (swine flu) virus.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), has developed a guidance document for surveyors regarding the H1N1 flu (swine flu) virus infection. Included in the memorandum are guidelines for surveyors regarding observation during survey of signs/health care facility visual alerts, proper respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette, proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and management of ill healthcare personnel. The memorandum, which includes several Web sites with guidance on H1N1 virus precautions as well as tracking tools for surveyor use, is available at the following link:

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/downloads/SCLetter09_36.pdf

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