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Subject: Biosecurity News 28
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BIOSECURITY NEWS 28

31 July 2009

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1. Conferences, Seminars and Journal Issues

The National Academies has released two reports: one into *Ethics Education and Scientific and Engineering Research* and another entitled *Live Variola Virus: Considerations for Continuing Research*. More information: http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12695 and http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12616

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The August issue of the *Lancet Infectious Diseases* (Volume 9, Number 8) contains a number of excellent articles relevant to the current influenza pandemic. More information: http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/issue/vol9no8/PIIS1473-3099(09)X7008-8

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The latest issue of *Biosecurity and Bioterrorism: Biodefense Strategy, Practice, and Science* (Volume 7, Issue 2) has been released. More information: http://www.liebertonline.com/toc/bsp/2009/7/2

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Previous Announcements

- The Lancet Infectious Diseases and The Lancet are organising a conference and special issue on influenza in the Asia-Pacific region. Conference: **21-23 August, 2009** in Qingdao, China. More info: http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309909700829/
- *Global Biosecurity 2010: safeguarding agriculture and the environment* in Brisbane, Australia. Abstracts: **31 July 2009**. Conference: **28 February – 3 March 2010**. More info: www.globalbiosecurity2010.com
- US Department of State's **Biosecurity Engagement Program** provides funding for travel to biosecurity-related conferences. More information: http://www.bepstate.net/index.html

2. Special Coverage: H1N1 Pandemic 2009

The novel H1N1 Influenza A outbreak affecting multiple countries receives special attention below. Some stories have been sourced to either the ABC (Australian Broadcast Corporation) or BBC online news sites because of their persistence over long periods of time and the continuity of their coverage. Readers seeking references to traditional print-based media should endeavour to search the online archives of their preferred news outlet using the key terms and dates gathered here.

Official Sources

The latest information update from the WHO:
http://www.who.int/csr/don/2009_07_06/en/index.html
The WHO will no longer provide regular reporting of case numbers and deaths as the pandemic is too widespread, and reporting capacity too patchy, to make these number meaningful. See:
http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/notes/h1n1_surveillance_20090710/en/index.html

Latest CDC update:
http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/update.htm
and
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

WHO interactive timeline:
http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/interactive_map/en/index.html

Full list of guidance information from WHO:
http://www.who.int/csr/resources/publications/swineflu/en/index.html

National Response Sites:
Australia: http://www.healthemergency.gov.au/
Canada: http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/alert-alerte/swine_200904-eng.php
European Union: http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/Health_topics/novel_influenza_virus/2009_Outbreak/
New Zealand: http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexmh/mexican-swine-influenza-update-270409
Singapore: http://www.crisis.gov.sg/FLU/InfluenzaA/
United Kingdom: http://www.hpa.org.uk/webw/HPAweb&Page&HPAwebAutoListName/Page/1240732817665?p=1240732817665
United States: http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/

Epidemiology, Disease Progression and Impact

'More Canadian Pigs Catch New Flu Virus'
29 July 2009
http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/07/more-canadian-p.html

WHO says average age of H1N1 cases increasing
24 July 2009
http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/notes/h1n1_situation_20090724/en/index.html

'A/H1N1 influenza virus: the basics'
24 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul24_2/b3046

'A/H1N1 influenza update' from the *British Medical Journal*
23 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul23_1/b2977

'Possible origin of current influenza A H1N1 viruses'
21 July 2009
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309909701811/fulltext

'Assessing the severity of the novel influenza A/H1N1 pandemic'
14 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul14_3/b2840

'In vitro and in vivo characterization of new swine-origin H1N1 influenza viruses'
14 July 2009
http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/vnfv/ncurrent/pdf/nature08260.pdf

'Cases of A/H1N1 flu are nearing epidemic levels in London and West Midlands, say GPs'
13 July 2009

http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul13_1/b2829

Pandemic H1N1 Virus in Canadian Pigs is proving difficult to trace
10 July 2009
http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/07/pandemic-h1n1-v.html

'Spread of a Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus via Global Airline Transportation'
9 July 2009
http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/361/2/212

'Viruses resistant to oseltamivir (Tamiflu) identified'
8 July 2009
http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/notes/h1n1_antiviral_resistance_20090708/en/index.html

Science publishes two animal model studies of pandemic strain
2 July 2009
http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/rapidpdf/1177238.pdf
and
http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/rapidpdf/1177127.pdf

'Public perceptions, anxiety, and behaviour change in relation to the swine flu outbreak: cross sectional telephone survey'
2 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul02_3/b2651

'Denmark finds 1st case of H1N1 resistance to Tamiflu'
29 June 2009
http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSLT26511320090629?rpc=401&

'Rapid-Test Sensitivity for Novel Swine-Origin Influenza A (H1N1) Virus in Humans'
29 June 2009
http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/NEJMc0904264

Response

'Age-prioritized use of antivirals during an influenza pandemic'
28 July 2009
http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2334/9/117

'Swine flu website inundated as cases in England double in a week'
24 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul24_2/b3029

NIAID Set to Launch Clinical Trials to Test 2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Candidates
22 July 2009
http://www.nih.gov/news/health/jul2009/niaid-22.htm
and commentary
http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/07/swine-flu-vacci-1.html

'Rich countries' pandemic strategies may cause vaccine shortages elsewhere'
21 July 2009
http://www.nature.com/news/2009/090721/full/460446a.html
and 'flu jabs urged for developing countries'
http://www.nature.com/news/2009/090707/full/460156b.html

'Closure of schools during an influenza pandemic'
21 July 2009
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309909701768/abstract

'England to launch special flu service next week to take pressure off primary care'
20 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul20_1/b2932

'BA, Virgin block swine flu travellers'
20 July 2009
http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/07/20/2630350.htm

'Studies aim to answer key questions as world readies for swine flu vaccination'
19 July 2009
http://ca.news.yahoo.com/s/capress/090719/health/health_flu_vaccine_questions

US allocates 1.85 billion in emergency funds to the H1N1 pandemic
18 July 2009
http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Letter-from-the-President-regarding-H1N1/

'Not to Worry About Vaccine Availability, U.S. Health Officials Say'
17 July 2009
http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/07/not-to-worry-ab.html

Harvard's School of Public Health survey on US citizens' reactions to flu pandemic
16 July 2009
http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/news/press-releases/2009-releases/national-survey-americans-influenza-a-h1n1-outbreak-fall-winter.html
and the full survey:
http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/news/press-releases/files/Swine_Flu_Topline_7.15.09.pdf

'Refusal to declare national emergency (in Argentina) restricts pandemic measures'
14 July 2009
http://www.nature.com/news/2009/090714/full/460311a.html

'Australian studies of A/H1N1 flu could help northern hemisphere this winter'
13 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul13_2/b2858
And the full list of projects:
http://nhmrc.gov.au/media/media/rel09/090708-h1n1-fast-track.htm

'WHO recommendations on pandemic (H1N1) 2009 vaccines' (Healthcare workers first to be immunized)
13 July 2009
http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/notes/h1n1_vaccine_20090713/en/index.html
And comment:
http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/07/pandemic-vaccin.html
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul15_1/b2877

'China - H1N1 Quarantine Measures' (from the US State Department)
9 July 2009
http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/pa/pa_4238.html

'WHO to call on nations with high rates of swine flu to move away from testing all suspected cases'
9 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul09_2/b2798
and
http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/notes/h1n1_surveillance_20090710/en/index.html

Patients and doctors are asked to report antivirals' side effects as swine flu spreads
7 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul07_3/b2780

'UK government predicts 100 000 new A/H1N1 flu cases a day by September'
3 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul03_2/b2721

'U.S. to Provide Antiviral Medication to Latin America and the Caribbean for Novel H1N1 Influenza'
2 July 2009
http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/07/20090702a.html

Commentary and Editorials

'Flu: vaccinate to cut risk of chimaeric virus emerging'
30 July 2009
http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v460/n7255/full/460571a.html

'Flu: weighing up conflicting expert information'
30 July 2009
http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v460/n7255/full/460571b.html

'Laurie Garrett Interview: U.S. Global Health Leader MIA on Swine Flu'
28 July 2009
http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/07/laurie-garrett.html

'Closing the door on potential pandemics'

27 July 2009
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8170278.stm

'Swine Flu Continues to Camp Out in U.S. and Vexing Vaccine Questions Remain'
24 July 2009
http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/07/swine-flu-conti.html

'Predicting and preparing for pandemic flu'
23 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul23_1/b2988

'Think H1N1 Is Bad Now? Wait Till Flu Season'
22 July 2009
http://www.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,1912087,00.html

'Historical Perspective — Emergence of Influenza A (H1N1) Viruses'
16 July 2009
http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/short/361/3/279

'The persistent legacy of the 1918 Influenza virus'
16 July 2009
http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/short/361/3/225

'How well are we managing the influenza A/H1N1 pandemic in the UK?'
15 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul15_4/b2897

'Straight From the Pig's Mouth: Swine Research With Swine Influenzas'
10 July 2009
http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/325/5937/140

'Geographic Dependence, Surveillance, and Origins of the 2009 Influenza A (H1N1) Virus'
9 July 2009
http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/short/361/2/115

'Inside China's swine flu quarantine system'
6 July 2009
http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/07/inside-chinas-s.html

'Who should receive Tamiflu for swine flu?'
6 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul06_1/b2698

'Can We "Hedge" against the Development of Antiviral Resistance among Pandemic Influenza Viruses?'
30 June 2009
http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pmed.1000103

3. News and Articles

Pandemic and Avian Influenza
The following reports and studies relate to avian influenza and pandemic influenza in general, for information specific to pandemic H1N1 Influenza, see above

'Genomic Diversity of Oseltamivir-Resistant Influenza Virus A (H1N1), Luxembourg, 2007–08'
22 July 2009
http://www.cdc.gov/eid/content/15/9/pdfs/09-0452.pdf

'Control of avian influenza A H5N1 in China'
21 July 2009
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309909701847/fulltext

Influenza in the tropics
21 July 2009
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309909701823/fulltext

'Economics of stockpiling for an influenza pandemic'
21 July 2009
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473309909701835/fulltext

'Dating the emergence of pandemic influenza viruses'
14 July 2009
http://www.pnas.org/content/106/28/11709.short

HIV

'AIDS: lessons learnt and myths dispelled'
18 July 2009
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673609603214/fulltext

'Male circumcision and HIV risks and benefits for women'
18 July 2009
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673609613118/fulltext
and the full report:
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673609609983/abstract?rss=yes

Drug resistance in newly acquired HIV infections
16 July 2009
http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2334/9/111

UNAIDS Report on the global economic crisis and HIV/AIDS
6 July 2009
http://www.unaids.org/en/KnowledgeCentre/Resources/FeatureStories/archive/2009/20090706_FinancialCrisis.asp

Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases

'Malaria becoming more drug resistant' (to artemisin)
29 July 2009
http://www.nature.com/news/2009/090729/full/news.2009.750.html
And the WHO cracks down on artemisin monotherapy
http://www.nature.com/news/2009/090714/full/460310b.html

'Bubonic and Pneumonic Plague - Uganda, 2006'
24 July 2009
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5828a3.htm

'Tularemia - Missouri, 2000-2007'
17 July 2009
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5827a3.htm

'Forever Unprepared — The Predictable Unpredictability of Pathogens'
9 July 2009
http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/361/2/120

Book Review of *Dread: How Fear and Fantasy Have Fueled Epidemics From the Black Death to the Avian Flu*
18 July 2009
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673609613179/fulltext

'Overseas Screening for Tuberculosis in U.S.-Bound Immigrants and Refugees'
4 June 2009
http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/abstract/360/23/2406

Biological Weapons

'Infectious Diseases Study Site Questioned'
27 July 2009
http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/07/26/AR2009072602857.html
http://www.nature.com/news/2009/090729/full/460556a.html

'Biodevelopment and the Biological Weapons Convention'
14 July 2009
http://www.thebulletin.org/web-edition/columnists/malcolm-dando/biodevelopment-and-the-biological-weapons-convention

'The U.S. Army's new biomedical regulations'
13 July 2009
http://www.thebulletin.org/web-edition/features/the-us-armys-new-biomedical-regulations

'Protecting against Future Shock — Inhalational Anthrax'
9 July 2009
http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/361/2/191

US Congress 'Denies Funds For Ag Biodefense Lab'
30 June 2009
http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/06/house-denies-fu.html

Biosecurity Policy and Ethics

'Germany outlines synthetic biology strategy'
27 July 2009
http://www.nature.com/news/2009/090727/full/news.2009.723.html

'CDC tightens controls on labs that possess SARS virus'
13 July 2009
http://www.gsnmagazine.com/cms/features/news-analysis/2322.html

US National Academies hosts a workshop on opportunities and challenges in synthetic biology
9 July 2009
http://sites.nationalacademies.org/pga/stl/PGA_051983

Profile of two prominent synthetic biologists
27 June 2009
http://www.newsweek.com/id/204235

Global Health Governance and Disease Control

World Intellectual Property Organisation looks at its effect on public health
15 July 2009
http://www.ip-watch.org/weblog/2009/07/15/conference-may-boost-wipo-mandate-on-food-security-public-health/

'Non-communicable diseases must have greater priority, says WHO'
14 July 2009
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/short/339/jul14_1/b2857

'Chan Calls For 'Moral Dimension' In Critical Public Policies'
6 July 2009
http://www.ip-watch.org/weblog/2009/07/06/chan-calls-for-moral-dimension-in-critical-public-policies/

'Public health requirements for rapid progress in global health'
3 July 2009
http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a912901673

'Modernizing health care: Reinventing professions, the state and the public'
3 July 2009
http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a912799676

Best wishes and happy researching,

Jon

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