

## GLOSSARY

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Epidemic: A disease that appears as new cases in a given human population, during a given period, at a rate that substantially exceeds what is “expected,” based on recent experience.

Health Alert Network (HAN): The South Carolina Health Alert Network provides secure messaging to local healthcare providers, public health, and other response partners to communicate recommendations and guidelines for public health interventions or actions from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and SC Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Incidence Rate: The number of new cases in the population during a specific period of time.

Influenza Like Illness (ILI): CDC defined syndrome of respiratory illness involving a fever (>100F), cough and/or sore throat.

Isolation: Separation or restriction of the movement or activities of ill persons with contagious disease in order to prevent transmission of the disease to others.

Novel Virus: A virus or virus subtype that has never previously infected humans, or has not infected humans for a long time.

Novel Virus Alert: Identification of a novel influenza virus in a human.

Pandemic Influenza: A widespread epidemic of influenza caused by a highly virulent strain of the influenza virus.

Pandemic Alert: Phases 3, 4, and 5 of the World Health Organization’s six phase classification system of an influenza pandemic. Phase 3 is characterized by human infection(s) with a new subtype but no human-to-human spread or at most rare instances of spread to a close contact. Phase 4 is characterized by small clusters with limited human-to-human transmission but spread is highly localized, suggesting that the virus is not well adapted to humans. Phase 5 is characterized by larger clusters but human-to-human spread is still localized, suggesting the virus is becoming increasingly better adapted to humans but may not yet be fully transmissible.

Pandemic Period: Phase 6 of the World Health Organization’s six phase classification system of an influenza pandemic. This phase is characterized by increased and sustained transmission in the general population.

Prophylaxis: Use of medication for purposes of prevention or mitigating severity of an illness.

Quarantine: Restriction of the movement and activities or separation of well persons believed to have been exposed to infection in order to prevent possible transmission to others.

Rapid Diagnostic Testing: Testing using commercially available test kits that are used in health care provider's offices to diagnose influenza type A or B in approximately 30 minutes. These kits are not able to diagnose a particular influenza virus type such as H5N1.

Second Wave: An increase in cases of disease among previously uninfected persons in the population, which follows a decrease in the number of infected persons from the initial outbreak.

Sentinel Laboratory: A laboratory that has policies and procedures for direct referral of suspicious specimens to the nearest Laboratory Response Network (LRN) reference laboratory in its jurisdiction.

Sentinel Provider: Physician practices and hospitals which monitor and report influenza activity in the general population.

Targeted Prophylaxis: A medical or public health procedure intended to prevent, rather than treat or cure disease in a specific population at-risk rather than in the entire population. Vaccines are prophylactic since they are used before illness develops in order to prevent infection, or in some cases (such as the smallpox vaccine) administered to people who have been exposed to a disease but have not yet become ill.

Vaccine Adverse Event Surveillance: The collection and analysis of information from reports of adverse events, such as allergic reactions, following immunization.

Viral Isolates: A sample of pure virus culture derived from a mixed bacterial, viral or fungal culture.