



Homeland
Security

April 25, 2009

To DHS employees working in Mexico:

It is likely you are already aware of the many precautions now in place in response to the swine flu outbreak in Mexico. I want to assure you I am monitoring this situation with special attention to our employees working in Mexico and along the Southwest border.

DHS is partnered with The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and the state and local authorities as they monitor both the cases in the United States and Mexico. I encourage you to do the following:

Monitor your local government announcements and the guidance from the Embassy, and follow local public health guidelines including movement restrictions and prevention recommendations. Practice good health habits to help stop the spread of germs.

Notify your supervisor and seek medical care if you feel sick, use caution when visiting a hospital as there may be a greater chance of contracting a virus there than if you stay home. After you return from Mexico, pay close attention to your health for 7 days.

If you become sick with influenza like illness, contact your doctor and tell them your symptoms and where you traveled.

Visit the CDC online for updated information about swine flu and health precautions while traveling at www.cdc.gov/flu/swine.

If DHS is prompted to deliver protective measures to our employees in Mexico, the Office of Health Affairs is prepared to work through the appropriate component management channels to ship, store, and distribute equipment and antivirals. We will continue to update you as the CDC provides guidance about workforce protection.

Again, DHS is working closely across the government interagency to ensure employees receive the most updated information.

Thank you for your continued service.

Sincerely,

Janet Napolitano
Secretary