



SWINE

FLU



Your first dose of
Tamiflu should be
affixed here.

If it is not, consult
your thieving postie.

K T A B

news.ktab.co.uk

What is this leaflet?

This leaflet aims to inform you about the risks posed by swine flu and how best to minimise them.

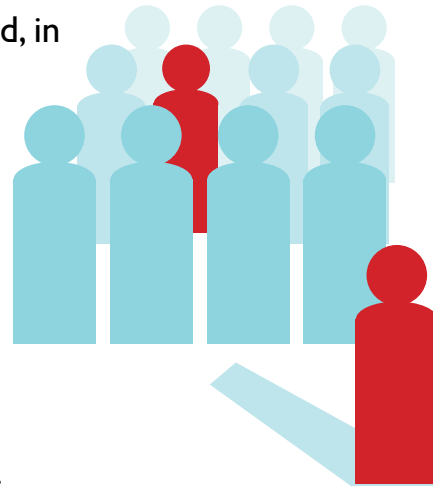
Please keep this information safe and free from mucus. You may need to refer back to it if swine flu becomes more widespread.

What is swine flu?

Swine flu is a type of flu. Symptoms include coughing, sneezing, feeling poorly and, in severe cases, dying.

You may have heard about swine flu in the press. It has polarised the media into those who like to salivate over a good scare story and reactionary idiots who dismiss any nascent threat as a conspiracy by scientists.

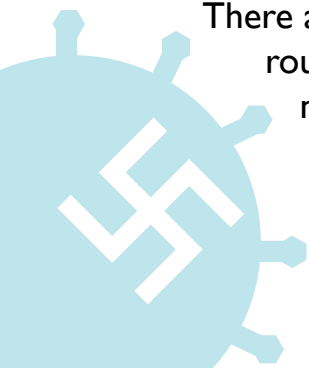
It is usually best to ignore the news.



Secondary infections

There are a variety of related infections doing the rounds on the Internet; most are viral in spite of not being very funny, for example the comment 'I rang NHS Direct, but all I got was crackling.'

Symptoms include your friends thinking you're a prick.

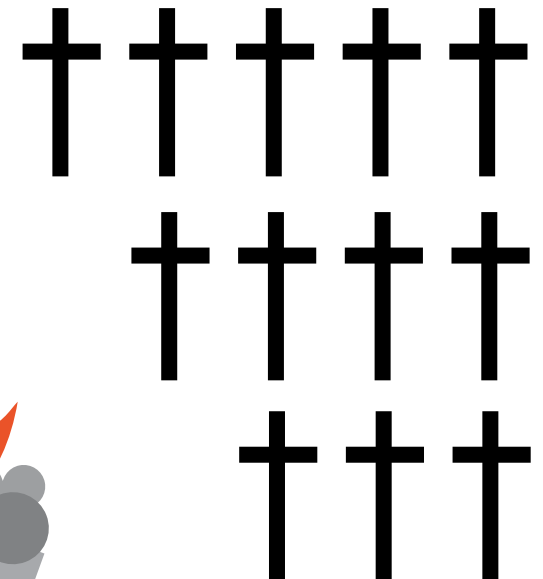


Nomenclature

Some people refer to swine flu by different names, just like some men do with their penises. Some of these are rude.

The disease was originally called **swine flu** since it seemed to have spread from pigs (known to 18th-century gentlemen and epidemiologists as swine) to humans. Some Jews and Muslims find pigs offensive, and have suggested renaming it **Mexican flu** following the great tradition of virological racism started with Spanish flu in 1918. The Mexican government are inexplicably offended by this suggestion, prompting the World Health Organisation (WHO) to suggest renaming it **H1N1 influenza A**, which has only offended one obscurely-named US punk band.

Other suggestions include **pig flu**, **new flu**, **flu 2.0** and **Diana, Princess of Wales memorial flu**.



Pandemic threat levels

The WHO classify pandemics on a numerical scale which indicates how close they are to World domination. Convert to the old Imperial pandemic scale by subtracting 0.46.

0 Disease eradicated from planet Earth. Humans living in Eden-like bliss, naked, contented and free, all politicians having been eradicated in a prior pandemic. Smoke rises vertically.

1 Animal viruses not causing infection in humans. Kittens' sneezes cute, not threatening.

2 Like level 1, but with more public grumbling. Mild perturbation advised.

3 Insufficient human-human transmission for community-level infection to take hold. Still safe to attend youth clubs, though still likely to be embarrassing.

4 Facebook group 'Petition the HINI Virus To Stop Infecting People' gains 2,500 members.

5 Disease spreads like crabs in Ibiza, in Ibiza and at least one other WHO region.

6 Community-level outbreaks in multiple WHO regions. The virus now gets three free armies at the beginning of each turn.

11 Zombie holocaust.

How can I keep up to date?

Rising pandemic threat levels are plastered all over the news and Internet, so you would have to be living in a bunker* to miss them. You can follow the seductive rise and fall of the WHO threat level on digital television, Twitter and Wikipedia. Please note that Wikipedia may not accurately reflect the current threat level, as schoolboys may have changed it to 'gay' as a joke.

If the WHO succumbs to the disease, the pandemic rating is exchanged for an equivalent DEFCON level, and America will officially declare itself hostile to the virus. Prepare for the common cold war.

* Living in a bunker is not recommended unless you already own one. Now is not a good time to buy property.

What to do for individuals

A lot of swine flu advice is common sense:

- **Do not lick children** if you are **infected**.
- **Do not lick children** if you are not **infected**.
- **Do not allow children to lick you.**
- Keep a map for tracking confirmed cases of swine flu with drawing pins on a noticeboard. Join them with string as they are announced on TV. If **the flu appears to be approaching you**, move house. Raze your old home to the ground with incendiary explosives, ensuring that they **burn for at least thirty minutes at 5000°C**.
- Insist on spraying anyone's hand you shake with a small squirty pot of antiviral disinfectant. People will rapidly come to the conclusion you're mental and **stop asking to shake your hand**.

Do I need a face mask?

You may have seen face masks being given out to the public in other countries on the news. However, there is little scientific evidence to demonstrate the effectiveness of face masks. More advanced self-contained respiratory apparatus can offer limited protection. In the likely occurrence that people are too lazy to wash their hands, visit your nearest biochemical lab and commandeer a HazMat suit.

What to do for governments

A lot of swine flu advice is common sense:

- **Blame the Mexicans and lock 'em all up** in a plush hotel pending deportation.
- Use the crisis to **distract** from uncomfortable issues at home, such as MPs' expenses.
- **Pass a law** making licking children illegal.
- Unlike economics, **biology is a 'science'**. Use the predictive power of science to make yourself seem prepared, in contrast to the **surprise and panic** with which you greeted the credit crunch.
- It is legitimate for MPs to **claim for antiretrovirals** and face masks on expenses.

Do the general population need face masks?

There is little scientific evidence to demonstrate the effectiveness of face masks, and so it is not worth distributing them early in a pandemic.

Handing out masks later in an outbreak both increases the sense of importance and panic, and gives the impression that you are doing something about it, allowing you to distract at all costs from the basic helplessness of the situation.

