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Media alert from the Media Scanning & Verification Cell, IDSP-NCDC.

Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
5361	01.07.2019	01.07.2019	Maharashtra	<a href="http://www.timesofindia.com/English">www.timesofindia.com/English</a> <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/4-more-die-of-swine-flu-experts-warn-of-spike/articleshow/70016049.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/4-more-die-of-swine-flu-experts-warn-of-spike/articleshow/70016049.cms</a>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Maharashtra: Four more die of swine flu, experts warn of spike</b>			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to SSU-Maharashtra			

Four more people succumbed to swine flu in the state in the past three weeks, taking the toll this year to 189 till June 27, according to the latest report by the state health department. Of these, Pune has recorded the highest — 44 deaths — followed by Nagpur (34), Nashik (31), Mumbai (18) and Kolhapur (12). The transmission of the virus, experts say, is likely to rise during the monsoon as the drop in temperature provides a conducive atmosphere. "We have intensified our surveillance, so there is no need to panic," a state health official said. "People should maintain healthy habits, exercise regularly and sleep properly.

Frequent hand-washing is a must during this period, as monsoon provides a conducive set-up for all kinds of influenza viruses, including swine flu," Mandeep Chadha, senior scientist at National Institute of Virology, said. Officials said 1,705 people had tested positive for the contagion in the state since the beginning of the year. "The season can spur transmission of viruses, including the swine flu virus. People should exercise caution," senior family physician Prakash Mahajan said.

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**Disclaimer:- This is a media alert subject to verification.**

**Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,  
Ministry Of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India**

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Moreover, weakening immunity among the masses and the co-circulation of other seasonal viruses, along with swine flu, are among the contributing factors. "People should be on the alert for persistent or worsening flu symptoms, particularly if one has other risk factors such as obesity or a compromised immune system," critical care expert Prasad Rajhans said.

"Delay in seeking treatment has been the cause for quite a few swine flu deaths reported in Pune since January this year. Often, patients go to doctors only after developing breathlessness and after their condition has worsened. Precious time is wasted in the first few days of showing symptoms, when treatment is crucial," Ramchandra Hankare, medical officer of health, Pune Municipal Corporation, said.

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