



सत्यमेव जयते
Government of India



Media Scanning & Verification Cell



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

Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
4785	01.08.2018	01.08.2018	West Bengal	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/swine-flu-alert-in-west-bengal-hospitals-tighten-vigil/articleshowprint/65206470.cms
Title:	Swine flu alert in West Bengal, hospitals tighten vigil			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to SSU-West Bengal			

Following the year's first swine flu case, reported by The Times of India on Monday, the health department has sounded an alert. All health officials and hospitals across the city have been asked to look out for swine flu symptoms in patients and take precautionary measures. Director of health services Ajay Chakrabarty said screening of patients will be stepped up.

"We have discussed the situation and steps are being taken. Now that the first case has been detected, we need to strengthen the vigil. The situation is under control," said Chakrabarty.

Experts said that since this is the swine flu season, the first case should be taken seriously. "In 2016, we had several deaths. Swine flu, or H1N1, is an air-borne infection which spreads fast and easily. In a crowded city like Kolkata, the cases could multiply in a matter of days," warned AMRI Hospital consultant Debashish Saha.

He added that crowded places like schools, colleges, auditoria, public transport and

Save Water- Save Life, Save a tree- Don't print unless it's really necessary!

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**

22-Sham Nath Marg, Delhi - 110 054

For more information please contact: Media Scanning & Verification Cell: - Phone (011)23946029

Email: - idsppediaalert@gmail.com, idspp-misc@nic.in, idspp-npo@nic.in

Join us on



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Media-Scanning-Verification-Cell-IDSPNCDC/137297949672921>

twitter

<https://twitter.com/MSVC1>



shopping malls were likely places where the virus could spread. "Children should be made to wear masks to schools. You can't avoid every public place, so it's necessary to be cautious," said Saha.

The state had 130 swine flu cases in 2009 in what was a major outbreak around the country. More than 10 cases were reported in 2015. And last year, more than a hundred cases were reported from Bengal alone.

Masks were not a fool-proof protection unless they were M95 masks, pointed out consultant Arindam Biswas. "Since swine flu is a droplet infection, it's difficult to contain. So, diagnosis should happen and treatment must begin as early as possible," he said.

While Saha felt that preventive treatment may begin even before diagnosis, Biswas differed with him.

"The principal drug for swine flu is Tamiflu and it should be used only after conformation of the virus' presence," he explained. However, Saha pointed out that it was necessary for those who had been exposed to swine flu patients to be careful.

Save Water- Save Life, Save a tree- Don't print unless it's really necessary!

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**

22-Sham Nath Marg, Delhi – 110 054

For more information please contact: Media Scanning & Verification Cell: - Phone (011)23946029

Email: - idsmediaalert@gmail.com, ids-misc@nic.in, ids-npo@nic.in

Join us on



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Media-Scanning-Verification-Cell-IDSPNCDC/137297949672921>

twitter

<https://twitter.com/MSVC1>

