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March 23, 2022

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has received notification of at least five cases of influenza “flu” or influenza- like illness (ILI) among the students and staff at AGBU Manoogian Dermidjian School. Signs of influenza-related illness include fever, cough, sore throat and headache. Influenza can be passed on when a person with the illness coughs, sneezes or talks, and then spreads droplets onto another person or other shared surfaces. A Public Health Nurse (PHN) from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health will be working with the school to review cases and implement control measures at the school.

Based on initial evaluation of cases, we advise the following control measures:

1. Sick student(s) should remain at home. Staff and students with any respiratory symptoms, including fever (feeling warm or fever above 99.5°F) should stay home for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever or signs of a fever when they are no longer taking fever-reducing medicines (for example: acetaminophen, ibuprofen, or aspirin).
2. Use good hand washing which is the best way to prevent disease. Hands should be washed often with soap and water (for example: before eating and after using the toilet).
3. Practice good respiratory habits including covering noses and mouths with a tissue when coughing or sneezing (A shirt sleeve or elbow can be used if you have no tissue).
4. The PHN may ask parents of sick students if a respiratory sample can be collected if needed to assist in identifying the type of illness and to assist in control measures.
5. Contact your school office to make sure that they know that your child is out sick.
6. Annual influenza vaccinations are recommended for all children and families.
7. Let your healthcare provider know if your child is at risk for flu related medical problems (including inability to fight disease, severe asthma, or heart or lung disease). Your healthcare provider might suggest medications to help prevent severe problems from infection with flu.

If you or your family do not have health insurance or a regular doctor, no-cost and low-cost vaccinations can be provided to you at our public health centers. For more information, please visit our website at

[www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/chs/](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/chs/) or call the Los Angeles County Information Line at 2-1-1 for a list of no-cost and low-cost vaccination doctors. For more information on flu please visit: [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip).

Please note that all information regarding this public health investigation is confidential to protect all patients' privacy. The facility and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health cannot release the name(s) of any ill person(s).

If you have any other questions or concerns, please contact Maria Cruley, Public Health Nurse at the, North Hollywood Health Center (818) 985-5703, during regular business hours. You can also call the LA County Information Line at 2-1-1 after business hours.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leo Moore', written in a cursive style.

Leo Moore, M.D., M.S.H.P.M.

Medical Director

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health

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