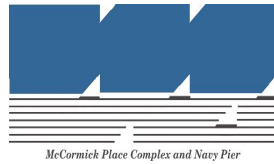


# Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority



## Department of Security & Safety

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### H1N1 INFLUENZA PREPAREDNESS PLAN

The Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority (MPEA) manage both McCormick Place and Navy Pier. MPEA Fire Safety and EMS Personnel receive guidance from the MPEA Medical Consultant as well as the City of Chicago HAN Network (Health Alert Network) with regard to the current H1N1 (Swine) Flu concern.

HAN provides real time email notification of any changing recommendations on the influenza outbreak. Any relevant changes in recommendations will be communicated to designated event organizer personnel as soon as possible when such changes in recommendations occur and are available.

MPEA's Medical Director, Dr. Glenn Aldinger and his associates also monitor the status of the influenza outbreak nationally as well as in the Chicago area through HAN. Continuous communication occurs with McCormick Place and Navy Pier administration if and when changing recommendations occur for the community in general as well as any such recommendations relevant to public gathering venues. Dr. Aldinger and his associates are available 24/7 for real time consultation should any changes in the influenza outbreak warrant urgent discussions that could influence McCormick Place and Navy Pier management decisions and protocols related to the public gathering or event activity in progress.

#### **Treatment Protocol**

##### **1. Visitors With Influenza-like Illnesses**

- A. Any visitors identifying themselves to facility staff members as having an influenza-like illness will promptly be given a mask to wear and offered evaluation at the McCormick Place or Navy Pier first aid facility. Visitors also have the option of simply leaving the facility to isolate themselves and/or to seek independent medical services.

##### **2. First Aid Treatment Area Evaluation**

- A. All visitors with influenza-like illness symptoms will be given and be required to wear droplet prevention masks as soon as they are identified as having a potential influenza-like illness and prior to entering the first aid treatment area.

- B. All first aid staff will initiate appropriate airborne droplet and contact precautions for themselves as well, i.e. staff will wear masks and gloves prior to any patient contact.
- C. Visitors with influenza-like illnesses will be evaluated in an isolated treatment area designated specifically for patients with potentially contagious infectious diseases. Separate sitting room areas within each first aid station will be utilized as an isolation area for potentially infectious visitors/patients.
- D. If first aid staff determines that the patient is stable without signs of an emergent medical condition, the patient will be instructed to leave the facility still wearing their previously provided mask, instructed to isolate themselves from other individuals and consider seeking appropriate definitive medical evaluation and care. A list of local clinics, hospitals, and physician's offices will be provided.  
*NOTE: For most individuals with an influenza-like illness who are not in need of hospitalization and do not meet high risk criteria, the CDC, state health authorities and other infectious disease experts strongly recommend that such individuals simply isolate themselves until they are better and discourage seeking routine medical care in settings where they can easily expose others to their infectious illness.*
- E. If first aid personnel determine that the patient is unstable and/or requires emergent definitive medical evaluation, arrangements will be made, per current protocol, to initiate EMS, i.e. ambulance, transport to the nearest appropriate hospital.
- F. After patients seen in the first aid treatment area with influenza-like illnesses leave the first aid area, the treatment area they occupied and all potentially contaminated surfaces will be disinfected with appropriate cleaning agents.

### 3. Contingency Plan: Multiple Visitors with Influenza-like Illnesses

If unexpectedly multiple numbers of McCormick Place or Navy Pier visitors are identified with symptoms of influenza-like illness while at the facility and the numbers of such individuals exceed the capacity to be housed and evaluated first aid isolation rooms, the following plan will be implemented:

- A. The facility first aid personnel will notify MPEA fire safety management.
- B. A "Code Quarantine" will be implemented. Code Quarantine involves designating a McCormick Place or Navy Pier meeting room/area as an isolation room/area. A sign will be posted at this designated area explaining its use. MPEA fire safety personnel will monitor and supervise the entrance to the room to prevent healthy individuals from entering as well as to assist first aid personnel providing care in this area.

- C. After being provided droplet precaution masks, individuals with influenza-like illnesses will be escorted to the quarantine/isolation meeting first aid evaluation of their condition.
- D. Facility first aid personnel, wearing appropriate protective masks and following contact precautions, will evaluate each individual to assess the severity of their illness.
- E. Individuals who meet criteria as outlined in Section 3D of this Preparedness Plan, i.e. stable patients, will be instructed to leave the facility, continue to wear their mask and to either isolate themselves and/or seek definitive medical evaluation and care.
- F. Individuals who are unstable or may need hospitalization will follow the protocol as outlined in Section 3E of this Preparedness Plan and be transported to the nearest appropriate hospital.
- G. Again, MPEA fire safety personnel will be stationed outside of the meeting room/area designated as quarantine/isolation to prevent those without illness from entering the area/room.

### **Facility Accommodations**

When H1N1 first emerged as a major public health concern, the McCormick Place and Navy Pier housekeeping partners, ARAMARK/Globetrotters, implemented a H1N1 flu toolkit for its management teams. This toolkit was developed based on information primarily from the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

ARAMARK/Globetrotters continues to also monitor information posted by the CDC and works closely with McCormick Place Fire Safety.

Additionally, ARAMARK/Globetrotters is taking the following steps to raise staff awareness regarding preventative measures that are designed to help limit the spread of infections among our education community:

1. Hand washing and personal hygiene stations have been placed in service areas. Custodial staff is encouraged to increase the frequency of hand-washing and follow the CDC's recommendations for personal hygiene.
2. Custodial staff will use cleaning and disinfection procedures that are appropriate during influenza seasons with emphasis on high touch areas. The disinfectants used are approved for H1N1 influenza control.
3. Hand sanitizer stations are available throughout McCormick Place and Navy Pier for use by our guests.