

Changes to Pandemic Influenza Preparedness for Ireland: Advice of the Pandemic Influenza Expert Group

The following chapters of the EG advice have been updated on 22nd May, 2009 as follows:

Chapter 2, “Phases of a pandemic: WHO, EU and Irish” has been changed to reflect the new WHO pandemic phases, published on 30th April, 2009.

Chapter 5, “Public Health Response: antivirals” has been changed to incorporate advice from the European Medicines Evaluation Agency (EMA) on the use of oseltamivir and zanamivir in pregnancy and in children aged less than one year of age, in the case of a pandemic being declared. The priority groups for antiviral treatment during an influenza pandemic, if stockpiled supplies are not sufficient to treat all symptomatic patients, have been amended.

Chapter 9, “Health System Response: Clinical Management of Patients with influenza like illness during an Influenza Pandemic” has been updated and revised following a review by the Infectious Disease Society of Ireland.

