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The Governor's Division of Emergency Management has announced that no more daily operational teleconference calls regarding H1N1 flu will be held, and Thursday marked the last daily H1N1 flu teleconference call planned for Brazoria County emergency officials, as well.

Dr. Leo O'Gorman, Brazoria County health authority, emphasized, however, that local health and emergency officials will continue to get information and monitor and investigate the situation. "New guidelines from the CDC and the Texas Department of State Health Services will be monitored and forwarded through the Brazoria County Emergency Management contact list."

He said that as of Thursday, Brazoria County had one confirmed case of H1N1 flu in a person over 18 years of age, two probable cases, one in a person over 18 and one under 18, and one suspected case in a person under 18.

"These are not new cases, but because of lab back-ups, we are just getting lab results," Dr. O'Gorman said.

Hospitals in the county are reporting no increase in flu-like illnesses being treated in emergency rooms, he added.

The Brazoria County Health Department has asked the participants on the daily county conference call to assist in an After Action Report (AAR.) During the AAR, community partners identify those activities that should be sustained (they worked well) and those areas where improvements can be implemented. AARs are a tool designed to determine areas in which improvements should be made to meet future pandemic flu situations, and to strengthen the plan for Brazoria County. A conference call facilitated by the Brazoria County Emergency Management is scheduled for 9 a.m. Thursday, May 14, to help prepare an After Action Report (AAR).

"This will provide a critical look at this real-life exercise," Dr. O'Gorman said.

He noted that public health preparedness is available to help anyone with plans or training. A workshop is scheduled from 9-11 a.m. Tuesday, June 16, to assist organizations or businesses in developing pandemic influenza plans. For more information, call Barbara Perkins at 979-864-1166.

"We will continue to make updates to the 864-1064 telephone hotline will be made whenever there is anything new to report," he said.