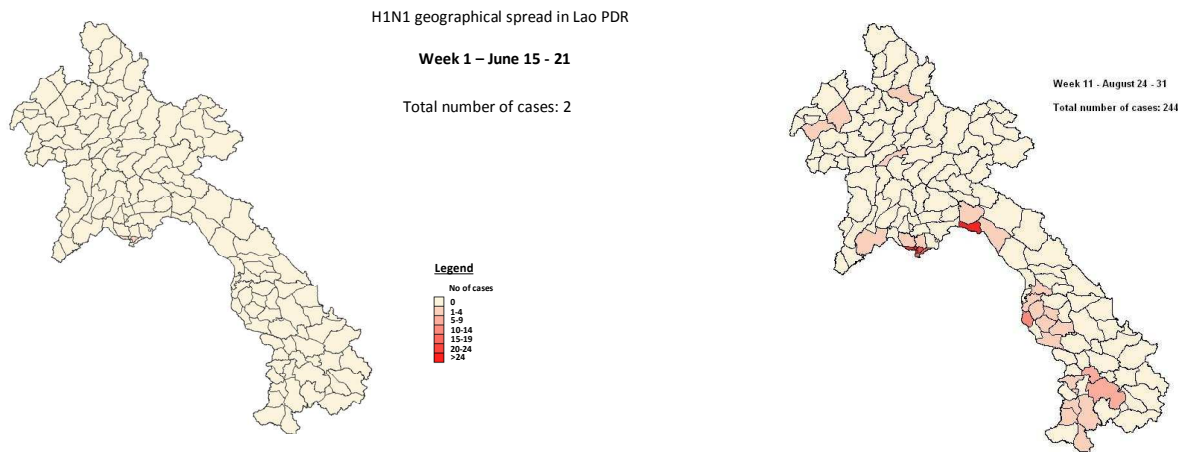


Pandemic H1N1 2009 virus
1 September 2009. Update 33
Perspective from WHO Lao PDR

Situation Update in Lao PDR

- **Number of WHO-confirmed cases:** 244 (2 deaths)
- **Provinces affected:** Bokeo, Bolikhamxay, Champasack, Khammouane, Luang Prabang, Luang Namtha, Phongsaly, Saravane, Savannakhet, Vientiane



Regional Update (countries bordering Lao PDR)

- **Cambodia:** 26 cases
- **China:** 13,232 cases (5 deaths)
- **Myanmar:** 24 cases
- **Thailand:** 14,976 cases (119 deaths)
- **Vietnam:** 2142 cases (2 deaths)

For information about Pandemic H1N1 2009 worldwide, please visit the WHO International website: www.who.int

Current issues

Second death to Pandemic H1N1 in Lao PDR confirmed

A 22-month-old child is the second person infected with the Pandemic H1N1 2009 virus to have died in Lao PDR. The child, who had been ill since 14th August, was brought to the Louangnamtha provincial hospital on 20th August with pneumonia and died from respiratory complications on 21st August. Laboratory results from the National Center for Laboratory and Epidemiology (NCLE) confirmed that the child was infected with the H1N1 virus.

Antiviral treatment not dependent on laboratory testing

The Pandemic H1N1 virus has become widespread in Laos. Testing for the virus is not necessary in order to receive treatment if an individual is severely ill or is in a high-risk category. If you have flu-like illness and are seriously ill, you will be treated, regardless of whether you have been tested for H1N1. Scientists estimate that around one-third of the world's population will become infected with the H1N1 virus over the next few years. Laboratory testing will continue for those who are severely ill or die from flu-like symptoms in order to determine whether the virus is changing to become more severe.

New radio and television call-in shows will answer the public's flu questions

This week, the National Emerging Infectious Disease Coordinating Office (NEIDCO), through the IEC Task Force, will begin sponsoring television and radio programs aimed at providing regular, accurate updates and information about pandemic H1N1. The programs will also take calls from the public to ask questions about H1N1. Doctors will provide the answers. The programs, in Lao language, air on the following schedule:

Radio

- Afternoon Music programme, 15:00-16:00 at Fm 103,7 MHz
- Lao Art, 16:00-16:30 at AM 6830 MHz
- Local radio is also providing updated information on Pandemic H1N1.

Television

- Morning News Update, 7:00-8:00 at Lao National TV (daily programme)
- Country Music, 12:30-14:30 at Lao Star Channel (Monday); and 17:00-19:00 (Tues and Wed)
- Midday dialog 12:30-14:30 (Thurs and Friday)

Where to get more information

UN Lao website: www.unlao.org

WHO International: <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

US CDC: http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/?s_cid=swineFlu_outbreak_internal_001

France: http://www.invs.sante.fr/derniere_minute/default.asp

For technical queries:

Contact the World Health Organization—Lao PDR, Communications Officer, Cathy Cochrane, email cochranec@wpro.who.int, phone 021 353902-4

For general medical queries from UN staff ONLY:

Contact the UN Dispensary, Ivy Caballes, email ivy.caballes@undp.org, office phone 021 267 789. ***Embassy staff should contact their normal clinic.***
