



Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor  
Eric E. Whitaker, M.D., M.P.H., Director

---

525-535 West Jefferson Street • Springfield, Illinois 62761-0001 • [www.idph.state.il.us](http://www.idph.state.il.us)

October 23, 2006

Dear Public Health Partner,

The Illinois Department of Public Health is concerned with the health and safety of all Illinois citizens. As a first responder, you and your workforce play an important role in keeping our citizens safe in the event of a bioterrorist act or naturally occurring infectious disease such as influenza. It is important that you protect yourself from infectious diseases in your routine work dealing with the public.

To assist in keeping you and your workforce safe as they do their jobs, we are providing the attached Personal Protective Equipment Guidance for Influenza. Personal Protective Equipment recommendations are based on scientific research regarding the organism's traits, size, and transmission rates.

Please use these guidelines for your staff that may come in contact with infectious patients. These guidelines are important precautionary measures during a regular influenza season, as well as in the event of a pandemic influenza outbreak. Additional PPE guidance regarding other infectious diseases and biological agents will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,

Eric E. Whitaker, MD, MPH  
Director of Public Health

Attachments