

# scgovHEALTHnews

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**MEDIA NOTE:** To safeguard patient privacy, the Sarasota County Health Department does not report on the clinical details of individual cases. All patient information reported to the Sarasota County Health Department is pursuant to Section 381.0031 F.S. and is considered confidential and part of medical records that are exempt from the public records law.

## Third flu death confirmed as H1N1 (swine) flu in Sarasota County

The Sarasota County Health Department has received laboratory confirmation of a third H1N1 (Swine) flu-related death. This death was in a 27 year old male. "While the majority of people who get the flu will fully recover, every death is tragic, and is a sobering reminder that influenza is a serious disease and can be fatal," said William Heymann, M.D., F.A.C.E.P., medical executive director for the Sarasota County Health Department. "Since influenza activity is now widespread in our community, everyone is urged to take these actions daily, especially until there is an H1N1 (swine) flu vaccine available."

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, or use the inside of your elbow.
- Wash hands for 20 seconds using soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Avoid close contact with people who are coughing or otherwise appear ill.

Stay healthy, stay informed, visit [www.sarasotahealth.org](http://www.sarasotahealth.org). Call the Flu Information Line at 941-861-2800 or visit a touch-screen health kiosk at all libraries and Senior Friendship Centers throughout Sarasota County.

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