

**For Immediate Release**  
**September 23, 2009**  
**For more information,**  
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## **Suspected 2009 H1N1 Flu Fatality in Summit County**

**Summit County, Colorado- JOINT MEDIA RELEASE FROM THE SUMMIT COUNTY OFFICE OF THE CORONER & PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

On 9/23/09 at 11:25 a.m., the Coroner's office was called to respond to Breckenridge Medical Center for the report of a 13-year-old male found unconscious at home. The decedent has been identified as Bryan Pineda of Breckenridge. The decedent was exhibiting flu-like symptoms, sought treatment and tested positive for Type A flu on Friday - currently 99% of positive Type A flu tests are thought to be 2009 H1N1 influenza. An autopsy will be performed tomorrow the results of which are unlikely to suggest an immediate cause of death. The Office of the Summit County Coroner is working closely with Summit County Public Health on this case.

The Summit County Public Health Department is currently working with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment around this case and ongoing 2009 H1N1 monitoring. Symptoms of 2009 H1N1 flu and seasonal flu include fever or chills *and* cough or sore throat. In addition, symptoms of flu can include runny nose, body aches, headache, tiredness, diarrhea, or vomiting. For more information visit [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov) <<http://www.flu.gov/>>.

This incident while tragic does not alter current national, state or local flu recommendations, which include:

- Stay home if you are sick until for at least 24 hours after you no longer have a fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit or 38 degrees Celsius) or signs of a fever (have chills, feel very warm, have a flushed appearance, or are sweating). This should be determined without the use of fever-reducing medicines (any medicine that contains ibuprofen or acetaminophen).
- Seek medical attention if any of the following serious symptoms occur. Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen, sudden dizziness, confusion, severe or persistent vomiting, seizures.
- Also remember to cover your coughs and sneezes and wash your hands often with soap and water. Use an alcohol-based hand cleaner if soap and water are not available.
- Get the seasonal flu vaccine now and the 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine when available.
  - Summit County Public Health expects the vaccine to be available for higher risk individuals beginning in October. Information on higher risk categories will be made available after the vaccine is received. Depending on vaccine supply it is expected to be available for everyone by December. It will be a single shot vaccine and trials of the vaccine place its safety on par with the seasonal flu vaccine.

- National and state public health agency recommendations do not currently include cancellation or avoidance of social gatherings or activities; such as sporting events, school attendance or activities, and entertainment events. Individuals should prepare plans to care for sick household members or for children if schools dismiss students or child care programs close.
- Be prepared in case you get sick and need to stay home. Have the following items on hand: a supply of fever-reducing medicines that contain acetaminophen or ibuprofen, alcohol-based hand cleaners, tissues, and other items that may be useful and help avoid the need to make trips out in public while you are sick.
- Learn about the flu and what you can do. To find out more about preparing for the flu, go to [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov) <<http://www.flu.gov/>> or call 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636).

Although currently the 2009 H1N1 flu presents no greater health risk than the typical seasonal flu, this is a rapidly evolving situation. You are advised to monitor media outlets as well as health agency websites for the most up to date information.

Should you have questions contact the Summit County Public Health at 970-668-9161.