

Delhi reports 834 confirmed cases of Influenza A H1N1

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Cases of Influenza A H1N1 have been reported from Rajasthan, Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh since January 1, 2013. 834 laboratory confirmed cases have been reported as on February 26, 2013 in National capital territory of Delhi.

Giving details on the situation on Influenza A H1N1 in the Rajya Sabha, Mr Ghulam Nabi Azad, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare said, "The ministry has provided guidelines on screening and categorization of patients, laboratory diagnosis, infection control, home care and clinical management. The drug Oseltamivir available with the Central Government has been supplied, as per requisition, to the states. This drug can also be procured by the states locally. Technical support is provided for surveillance through Integrated Disease Surveillance Program."

The minister further said, "To facilitate laboratory diagnosis through a network of 26 laboratories in government sector, in addition to the earlier support given for strengthening these laboratories, support for diagnostic reagents for diagnosis of Influenza A H1N1 is being given. Personal protective equipment, surgical masks and N-95 masks have also been provided. States have been addressed to increase awareness among public for adopting simple public health measures such as hand washing, covering the mouth while coughing, sneezing and avoiding crowded places."