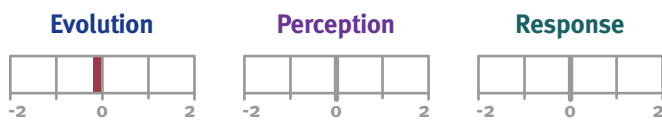


Thursday, July 2, 2009

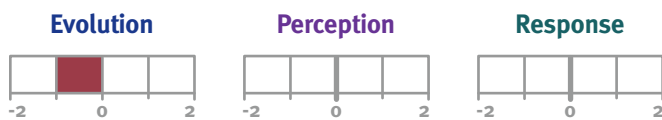
## H1N1 TREND UPDATE

Today, Uganda confirmed its first case of the H1N1 virus in a 40-year old British man who recently arrived in the country.<sup>1</sup> Malta became the last country in the European Union to report the emergence of the H1N1 virus, confirming its first cases of the virus in two men who recently returned from Spain.<sup>2</sup>



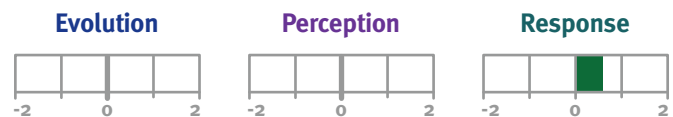
## SECOND CONFIRMED CASE OF TAMIFLU RESISTANCE

The Japanese Health Ministry is reporting the second global case of H1N1 resistance to Tamiflu. The only details released about the patient were that he was confirmed to have the virus in May, and has since fully recovered. They had not tested the patient's sensitivity to Tamiflu and could not confirm the patient's age or sex.<sup>3</sup> Earlier this week scientists in Denmark confirmed the first case of H1N1 resistance to Tamiflu, which the WHO and Roche classified as an isolated case.



## WHO TELLS WHEN TO NOT WORRY, WHEN TO SEEK TREATMENT

Today, the WHO Director General released a statement outlining the warning signs that people should be alert for in severe H1N1 flu cases. "For a pandemic of moderate severity, this is one of our greatest challenges: helping people to understand when they do not need to worry, and when they do need to seek urgent care," the Director General stated. Warning signs that children may need extra medical care include difficulty waking up, and acting lethargic or not alert. Adults with fevers lasting more than three days should seek additional medical help. She also said that people exhibiting normal flu symptoms without these warning signs should refrain from seeking hospital care.<sup>4</sup> Today was the second day of a three day conference, hosted by the WHO, involving global disease experts trying to develop a model for the behavior and impact of the H1N1 pandemic.



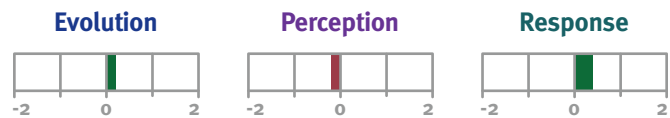
## U.K. SHIFTS STRATEGY FOR H1N1

Britain's Health Secretary announced today that expert projections using the current trend of H1N1 outbreaks show the U.K. could see 100,000 new cases a day by the end of August. While stressing that this was only a projection, he also announced that they will be shifting from a containment phase to a treatment phase effective immediately.<sup>5</sup> Health officials will now shift their focus to the

This document has been prepared by bio-era as a part of the "Thinking Ahead" service, designed to support commercial decision-making in response to the anticipated commercial and economic impacts of novel H1N1 pandemic influenza. The service seeks to monitor and evaluate current developments based on their significance with respect to three criteria: the significance of the news item for (1) the evolution of the physical disease event; (2) its effects on perceptions of threat (i.e., fear); and (3) examples of reaction or response to (1) and (2) above. To the extent possible, bio-era seeks to integrate an understanding of the particular news items identified as leading indicators or signposts within a broader bio-era scenario-based decision-support framework. To learn more about the service, the scenarios framework, or to enroll, please visit [www.bio-era.net](http://www.bio-era.net).

treatment of the virus, and no longer continue trying to trace all contacts of confirmed cases. They will also discontinue releasing daily updates with compilations of new cases. The distribution of antiviral medications will be targeting the most at risks groups such as pregnant women, children, elderly, and patients with underlying medical conditions. The Health Secretary said that, “Local GP surgeries and hospitals have are coming under increased pressure,” and they hope making these changes effective immediately will help ease those pressures.<sup>6</sup>

Novartis announced that it has produced the first doses of H1N1 flu vaccine in Europe. It is still expected to be at least two months until the vaccine distributions begin, as this first batch was created using cell culture production with a wild strain of the virus. Doses produced for public distributions will use modified “reassortant seed” of the virus, but the production of this first batch proves that a vaccine can be produced.<sup>7</sup>



Bio-era's judgement regarding the extent to which a development is positive or negative for: (1) the physical evolution of the disease, (2) perceptions of the disease, and (3) future disease event impacts.

	-2	0	2
<b>Physical Evolution</b> How significant is the development with respect to the evolution, transmissibility, and virulence of the disease?	Indicates or portends higher transmission, transmissibility, and/or virulence of the disease	No Net Change	Indicates or portends lower transmission, transmissibility, and/or virulence of the disease
<b>Perception</b> How significant is the development with respect to perceptions of threat (i.e., fears of the disease)?	Indicates or promotes heightened fear of the disease	No Net Effect	Indicates or promotes lower fear of the disease
<b>Response/Reaction</b> To what degree does the response help or hinder the effort to mitigate the impacts the disease?	Expected to exacerbate disease impacts	No Net Impact	Expected to mitigate disease impacts

- 1 *People's Daily Online*. “Uganda Reports One Confirmed A/H1N1 Case.” July 2, 2009. See: <http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90782/90880/6692225.html>
- 2 *EUBusiness*. “Malta Becomes Last EU State to Report Swine Flu.” July 2, 2009. See: <http://www.eubusiness.com/news-eu/1246528023.22>
- 3 Reuters. “Japan Finds First Case of H1N1 Resistant to Tamiflu.” July 2, 2009. See: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssHealthcareNews/idUSSP52739320090702>
- 4 Reuters. “WHO Chief Identifies ‘Warning Signs’ of Severe Flu.” July 2, 2009. See: <http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSL290296120090702>
- 5 *Guardian*. “UK Swine Flu Can no Longer be Contained.” July 2, 2009. See: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/jul/02/swine-flu-uk>
- 6 Reuters UK. “Britain Changes Tactics on Swine Flu.” July 2, 2009. See: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKTRE56120R20090702?pageNumber=2&virtualBrandChannel=0>
- 7 BBC. “Swine Flu Vaccine Made in Europe.” July 2, 2009. See: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/8128509.stm>