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## what's up doc?



by Dr. Mary Livers

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Vol. 1, No. 36. May 1, 2009

Dear Colleagues:

Hello everyone. It's time for another edition of What's Up Doc?. Time really flies by. It doesn't seem like a whole week has passed, but here we are.

Just when spring had sprung, so does H1N1. These are interesting times we are living in. You know these events come and go throughout history. We had a very bad bout with a flu epidemic in the early 1900's. My grandfather lived through this time period. My Dad told me that his father remembered seeing stacks and stacks of pine boxes as the result of that epidemic. That must have been very sobering and frightening. Fast forward to 2009- close to 100 years later. We are introduced to "H1N1" – a possible flu outbreak of pandemic proportion. *What's different now in 2009?* From my view – everything. As I sit in the GOHSEP briefings, I am amazed at our capacity to identify, track, and proactively respond to a modern threat to our public health and well-being. We are able to know very quickly what the risks are, and how we can best protect ourselves and our communities from an unseen virus named "H1N1." Please be assured the Governor, his cabinet (*which includes your truly*) and other branches of government are staying on top of the situation and will implement all available precautionary measures as appropriate. I know your OJJ leadership has been communicating our preparation strategies as we go along. Glen Holt is doing a good job keeping us informed and coordinating our response to this event as it is unfolding. I know that we will remain steadfast in our duties to protect the public, and our youth. It is our mission, and we do it well. Thanks to all of you for your service. Each and every one of you is important and we appreciate you standing up and doing the job, no matter what comes our way. We are OJJ!

Folks, I think I am going to end it here for this week. I have had a long week and am in need of some R and R. Not to mention, I have a to-do list at home too.

Here's wishing you a great, safe, and healthy weekend!

Sincerely,  
"Doc"

*Dr. Mary Livers*

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