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TRIAL ATTORNEYS

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We Never Forget that Behind Every Case, are Real People

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A H1N1 Flu to-do list

While Swine flu vaccines are finally out this month, the onslaught of information is making it pretty hard - and scary- to figure out what you should be doing right now.

Although some people have already been vaccinated, it could be weeks before you even get a chance at the shot, so what happens now?

Here are some tips of what to do, and not to do to, to help you through the flu season:

1. Look up local flu outbreaks

Since 40% of people get most of their news through the internet, take the time to check out local flu activity on the online version of your local newspaper, or websites like Google Flu Trends.

2. Stay Home

If you are sick with symptoms like fever, aches, stuffy nose and chills? It's possible you may have Swine flu. Its best to just stay home and get better before it may worsen.



3. Wash your hands

It may seem like the most simple thing ever, but washing your hands with soap and water or using an alcohol rub can help.

4. Be Prepared

If you are not immunized already, you might have to be patient as it may take some time for everyone who wants the Swine flu vaccine can get to it. In the meantime, be prepared if you or a loved one gets sick. Cover your mouth if you are sneezing or coughing, stay home if you are sick and see a doctor if the symptoms get worse.

5. Don't Panic

For most people, H1N1 infection is generally mild and can be cured with time, bed rest and fluids. However, the virus is serious, particularly for those in high-risk groups. High risk people, whether adults or children, usually have underlying conditions like chronic heart or lung conditions or weakened immune systems due to disease or chemotherapy treatment. With that being said, H1N1 will feel like seasonal flu for most people.

\$5.75 million settlement for wrongful death of a two-year old at a Philadelphia daycare center.

In 2006, a little girl's older brother arrived to pick her up from a local Philadelphia daycare center, only to find the workers who were responsible for her care, could not find her. He eventually discovered his little sister slumped on a tricycle wedged under a jungle gym outside in the playground.

While waiting for the arrival of the EMS, not a single employee attempted to do CPR or first aid on the toddler. She was then rushed to the Children's Hospital in Philadelphia (CHOP) after the EMS was unable to resuscitate her.

The toddler lost consciousness after her daycare teachers failed to properly supervise her causing severe injuries including hypoxic brain injury, or suffocation, and cardiac arrest.



The toddler died a few days later after being declared brain dead while maintained on life support throughout the duration of her stay at CHOP.

Messa & Associates, P.C., represented the interests of the two year-old's family who hoped that the lawsuit would bring awareness to the potential dangers and severe injuries that can occur to children at daycare centers when staff are not properly trained.

Also, that daycare centers around the country, specifically those in Pennsylvania, will re-examine their hiring and training procedures of employees and take steps to improve and/or create additional policies to ensure that the safety and well-being of all the children who are under their care and supervision is not compromised.

RECENT RECALLS

In October, Ford announced they will add 4.5 million older-model vehicles to the long list of those recalled because of a defective cruise control switch could cause a fire.

The recall covers 1.1 million Ford Windstar minivans that had a small risk of fire due to internal leaking from the switches.

The remaining 3.4 million vehicles are Ford, Lincoln and Mercury models. Even though there has been no reports of fire with those models, they are included in the recall because they use the same switches.

Ford advises owners of all vehicles covered by the recall to park them outside until they are mailed instructions by the end of the month on how to get repairs.



The recall covers the following model years:

1995-2003 Ford Windstar; 2000-2003 Ford Excursion diesel; 1993-1997 and 1999-2003 Ford F-Super Duty diesel; 1992-2003 Ford Econoline; 1995-2002 Mercury Mountaineer; 1995-1997 and 2001-2003 Ford Ranger; and 1994 Ford F35 Motorhome vehicles.



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New York Firm Recalls Fresh Ground Beef Products Due To Possible *E. coli*

On October 30th, Fairbank Farms of Ashville, New York recalled over 545,000 lbs of ground beef products, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced recently.

FSIS became aware of the problem during the course of an investigation of a cluster of *E. coli* O157:H7 illnesses. Working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state health and agriculture departments, FSIS determined that there is an association between the fresh ground beef products subject to recall and illnesses in Connecticut, Maine and Massachusetts.

A potentially deadly bacteria, *E. coli*, can cause bloody diarrhea, dehydration and in severe cases, kidney failure. The very young, the elderly and people with weak immune systems are the most susceptible to food borne illness.

The Fairbank Farms beef was produced

in mid-September and probably labeled for sale before the end of the month and went to retailers in eight states including **Trader Joes, Price Chopper, Lancaster and Wild Harvest.**



The ground beef packaged under the Fairbank Farms name was distributed to stores in Maryland, Massachusetts, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia, and was likely repackaged for sale

The federal agency says each package of ground beef carried the number "**EST. 492**" on the label.

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