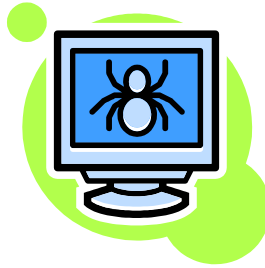


Can you believe everything you read? Researching H1N1 and HPV on the Internet



Influenza A H1N1 (human swine influenza) is a type of flu virus that regularly infects pigs, but may also make people sick. Symptoms are similar to the common flu and can include high fever, cough, headache, general aches, fatigue, eye pain, shortness of breath, and lack of appetite. Some people have also reported runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

There are over 100 types of HPV (human papillomavirus). HPV is a virus that can infect many parts of the body. Some types of HPV are sexually transmitted and can cause warts or other consequences such as cancer (for example cervical, penile and anal) in the anogenital region of women and men.

Controversy surrounds both these vaccines for different reasons.

The following are a number of online sources on H1N1 and HPV. Your job is to critically evaluate the information they contain and make your own informed judgement on the topic. Consider the Accuracy, Authority, Objectivity, Currency and Coverage of the information on the site. How do you rate the information based on these aspects and why. Finally, write a couple of sentences on what you have learned and whether or not you would get the vaccine.

Procedure

Go to the school website and click on **Library** (on the left)

Under **Subject Links**, click on **Science**

Click on **H1N1** or **HPV** folder and review the websites

These are the sites you will be considering.

- ✓ Click on each one and complete the evaluation chart. For each website, determine whether or not they display accuracy, authority, objectivity, currency and coverage. Briefly explain how or why you have arrived at that conclusion.
- ✓ Once you have completed the chart, go back and highlight the Website titles with GREEN if you conclude the website to be of quality, or with PINK if you conclude it is not a quality site.
- ✓ On the back of the chart write a couple of sentences reflecting what you have learned. Indicate whether or not you would get the vaccine and why.

Good sites:

http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/alert-alerte/h1n1/faq_rg_h1n1-eng.php (Public Health Agency of Canada)

http://www.fraserhealth.ca/your_health/conditions_&_diseases/h1n1/#faqItem11402-1 (Fraser Health)

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/opinions/canadas-h1n1-decision-policy-or-politics/article1251003/>

http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/media/nr-rp/2009/2009_0902_backgrounder-eng.php (Public Health Agency of Canada, H1N1 vaccine)

Questionable:

http://preventdisease.com/news/09/080709_swine_flu_hype.shtml (PreventDisease.com)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GCAo687FPf0> (Youtube)

<http://vran.org/in-the-news/swine-flu-vaccine-a-public-health-experiment/> (VRAN)

http://www.newsmax.com/health/vaccine_swine_flu/2009/07/07/232717.html (NewsMax.com)

