



IDOC reports updated flu treatment at facilities

January 13, 2014 By Amber Ruch

ILLINOIS (KFVS) - The Illinois Department of Corrections reports that six correctional centers out of 29 IDOC facilities are involved in flu treatment.

According to the IDOC, there are 31 confirmed cases of H1N1 flu, out of about 48,532 inmates in the system.

With the number low, the IDOC said they are doing everything possible to keep it that way, and is following instructions from Illinois Department of Public Health and county health departments. They say they are taking an extremely cautious approach.

All confirmed cases, and even those with only symptoms, are immediately isolated, according to the IDOC. They say 25 inmates with symptoms have tested negative for the flu. All housing units with either confirmed cases or symptoms are quarantined and locked down.

The IDOC said intense cleaning and disinfecting takes place multiple times daily.

H1N1 flu is not unusual this year in Illinois. There are many cases, according to the IDPH and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

All inmates receive flu shots upon intake by IDOC, unless declined. Shots distributed this season do target H1N1, anticipated by state and national health authorities to be present much more often in 2013-'14.

Five correctional centers are on partial Level 1 Lockdown; only one is on full-facility Level 1 Lockdown. All lockdowns are precautionary/medical, none for security reasons