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**Medical Officer of Health Confirms First Hospitalization**

WHITEHORSE – Yukon’s medical officer of health, Dr. Brendan Hanley, today confirmed that Yukon has had its first hospitalization linked to pandemic H1N1 (pH1N1).

“The first patient was a child, with an underlying chronic condition who was hospitalized last week, and has now been released,” Hanley said. The lab has confirmed that the patient had H1N1.

“We are seeing more flu activity right now and it was to be expected that some of our cases would be hospitalized,” Hanley added. “We are very fortunate that until now, most cases have been mild.”

Hanley said he will not be reporting numbers of lab confirmed cases because numbers do not truly reflect the actual situation. Physicians and community nurses are being asked to test only those individuals who have influenza-like illness with either risk factors or severe illness.

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