Although the number of victims caused by H1N1 influenza is decidedly inferior to other pandemics, a potential risk of a panic syndrome exists because of bad information or a scarce knowledge of the phenomenon. The virus reaches other parts of the world as happens for all the types of influence virus. While for the SARS a direct contact was necessary, through the so called droplets of Pflugge, this swine-derived influence spreads to more distance through the air and is very contagious. From the first symptoms through convalescence, an episode of H1N1 flu lasts about 10 days. The epidemic itself, however, could possibly last for months, since several human variants of the flu may merge with H1N1 to create a new and possibly more dangerous and harmful viral variant. The vaccination against the influence is the most effective method to prevent the illness. From the moment of the isolation of a new flu virus, one must wait for the preparation of a new specific vaccine to be ready for the next influence season. It takes about two to three weeks after the injection to develop antibodies for the virus. Vaccines are free and can be administered by family doctors or pediatricians for children between 6 months and 2 years of age. It is recommended, but not obligatory vaccinations to all hospital-based doctors and medics, blood donors and chronically ill patients up to age 65. The vaccine does not cause any particular damages and only a single dose is necessary for protection.

Biography

Giulio Filippo Tarro was graduated from Medicine School, Naples University in 1962. He was the Research Associate at the Division of Virology and Cancer Research, Children’s Hospital from 1965-1968, Assistant Professor of Research Pediatrics, College Medicine (1968-1969), Cincinnati University, Oncological Virology Professor, Naples University (1972-1985), Chief of Division of Virology (1973-2003), Head of Department Diagnostic Laboratories, (2003-2006), D. Cotugno Hospital for Infectious Diseases. Since 2007, he was the Chairman of Committee of Biotechnologies and VirusSphere, World Academy Biomedical Technologies, UNESCO. Adjunct Professor at Department of Biology, Temple University, College of Science and Technology and he has received the Sbarro Health Research Organization Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010. He is also the President of Foundation de Beaumont Bonelli for Cancer Research.

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