

Question: What is H1N1 Flu?

Answer: Some reports use the name "Novel H1N1 Flu" now. The word "novel" here means "new," so "Novel H1N1" is a new flu virus. This is the same flu that was at first called "Swine Flu." Scientists name flu viruses based on two proteins on the surface of a virus: abbreviated H-protein and N-protein. Different flu viruses have different types of H and N proteins (for example: Bird flu virus is labeled as H5N1). It is used to identify the type of virus to see if it is new.