

FEMA Wave 1 Script 3

Anchor:

Health officials here in the US are saying that the standard treatment of Tamiflu seems to be ineffective against this influenza strain.

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Good morning, I'm Greg Gist, live from VNN headquarters in New York City.

To explain more about the Malta Flu, I'm joined by Dr. Fred Shaw, who is an expert on infectious diseases.

Doctor Shaw:

Thanks so much. We are going to put up on the screen what we currently know of the Malta Flu and its symptoms. This information is provided by the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control.

Many of the symptoms are very similar to your seasonal flu.

If you experience such symptoms, call your physician.

If you have recurrence of fever, or if you have high risk family members with symptoms, including small children and elders, you should call your physician.

Treatment for the Malta Flu is really about keeping hydrated and relieving the symptoms as much as you can.

Anchor:

If anyone exhibits these symptoms, what should they do?

Doctor Shaw:

We would prefer that residents call their physician or contact 311 and speak to a triage nurse. That person will determine if medical attention is necessary.

Anchor:

What is the significance of Tamiflu, a standard treatment of influenza; being ineffective with the Malta Flu?

Doctor Shaw:

I wouldn't over emphasize this, Greg. Tamiflu is just one of many treatment options available. It's ineffectiveness just means one less weapon in our arsenal.

Anchor:

Thank you Dr. Shaw.

Finally, health officials state that it's too soon to know if the current vaccine

rushed through production will be effective. We're told that American officials will release their initial results from its vaccination studies and testing later this month.

Stay tuned to VNN New York for breaking news throughout the day. I'm Greg Gist, we thank you for watching.