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PROGRAMMING



EYE ON EDUCATION

Advanced Math Curriculum Under Fire 10/21/09

Midland parents are speaking out about an advanced math curriculum they say is hurting their student's grades. MISD officials say to give the program some time to prove itself.

Jordan Reagan
 CBS 7 News
 September 22, 2009

Flu season has hit the Permian Basin early this year, and hospitals in the area are taking new measures to fight the virus.

While Midland Memorial and Medical Center Hospitals have seen an increase in flu patients, they've also seen people come in with the common cold or allergies, thinking they have the flu. But how can you know the difference?

Dr. Sudip Bose with Medical Center Hospital says the seasonal flu takes over the whole body, leaving you feeling achy and miserable. But also prevalent this time of year is the common cold, which has far less severe symptoms.

"The common cold is usually located neck and above, so runny nose, congestion, you might have a little bit of a cough with that," Bose said.

But there are plenty of people out there who do have the flu, and it's affecting more young people than usual.

"A lot of children. A lot of kiddos in the emergency rooms are being treated," Infection Preventionist at Midland Memorial Hospital, Val Sparks said.

She says they are taking new measures to isolate flu patients in their facility.

"We are segregating them immediately, taking them to different waiting rooms, not allowing them to sit in the regular waiting room, and seeing them in separate areas," Sparks said.

They will not test for H1N1 unless the patient has been hospitalized for more than 48 hours, but they say treatment is the same, regardless.

"There really is no difference in the symptoms between the seasonal flu and H1N1, and there really is no difference in treatment," Sparks said.

Unfortunately, there's not a lot doctors can do to treat the flu.

"There's not a magic medicine that can make it all go away. If we had it, we would give it to people, but it does not exist," Bose said.

They say hospitals usually can't do much more for flu patients than they can do for themselves at home with over-the-counter medications.

"What we would recommend is just to stay calm, not panic, and just rest and fluids and the usual things that can make you feel better," Bose said.

Hospital officials say if you don't have the flu, the best way to keep from getting it is to follow the "3 C's"

Stay clean, wash your hands regularly, cover your coughs and sneezes, and contain germs by steering clear of crowds.



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