

Scene 1 (Day 1– setting the stage)

We are coming to you with breaking news. A new and severe flu strain has cropped up in the [Los Angeles](#) area. Seven cases have been confirmed by the Centers for Disease Control – five adults and two teenagers; all are greater [Los Angeles](#) area residents.

The afflicted are quarantined at one of three area hospitals – [Cedars Sinai in West LA](#), [USC County in Boyle Heights](#), and [Children’s Hospital in Orange County](#). One patient, a 72 year-old [Pasadena](#) woman is in critical condition.

Public health officials are stressing hygiene as the first line of defense. They say to wash your hands frequently and cover your mouth when you cough. Simply put, “clean hands save lives.”

Scene 2 (Day 3 – growing severity)

Health officials are racing to combat what they fear might become a full-blown flu epidemic. The [Hollywood](#) flu, as it is now being called, claimed two lives late last night. 250 additional cases have been confirmed and another 500 suspected cases have surfaced over the past 12 hours. Cases have been reported as far as 100 miles from [Los Angeles](#).

According to the CDC, the [Hollywood](#) flu is showing signs of resistance to the vaccine in distribution for the current flu season. It is working around the clock to formulate a new vaccine.

Given the unknown and highly contagious nature of the flu strain, the Department of Homeland Security has announced its collaboration with the CDC to expedite the investigation into the virus’ origin. We are also receiving unconfirmed reports suggesting the flu strain was genetically engineered by a terrorist cell federal agents have been monitoring for the past 8 months.

Scene 3 (Day 5 – state of emergency)

Now 5 days in, 150 lives have been claimed by the **Hollywood** flu. This is nearly double the total number of lives lost worldwide to the 2006 bird flu pandemic. Confirmed cases are as far north as **San Francisco** and as far south as **San Diego**.

With the number of deaths rising sharply and the number of confirmed cases in the thousands, **Governor Schwarzenegger's office** has declared a public health emergency. If you are experiencing a 102-degree fever or higher, severe fatigue, blistering rashes or sores, or prolonged nausea and vomiting, health officials are recommending you seek medical attention immediately.

People are already starting to flood emergency rooms. Space and service shortages are becoming of concern, as seventy-five percent of area emergency rooms now report being at or over capacity.

Scene 4 (Day 6 – accident announcement/ continued uncertainty/ terror announcement)

Local officials are reporting that a SWAT team raided an apartment near the USC campus earlier this afternoon. There they uncovered a makeshift lab to which the **Hollywood** flu strain's development was traced. Though details remain scarce, the FBI is reportedly searching for five men of Pakistani origin believed to have infected themselves with the genetically engineered strain at least 56 hours ago. Following self-exposure they boarded buses and trains in order to spread the virus.

According to CDC scientists, the men are thought to be in the advanced stages of infection. They will likely appear weathered and disoriented. Authorities are asking for your help in locating the suspects; if you see anything suspicious, please contact the hotline number shown at the bottom of your screen.

The **Hollywood** flu has now taken upwards of 300 lives. The national terror alert has been raised to "severe."

Scene 5 (Day 7 – update on virus’ spread, travel moratorium)

The nationwide manhunt continues for the suspected terrorists believed to be responsible for the release of the **Hollywood** flu but no arrests have been made. 500 lives have been claimed by the flu, and the number of confirmed cases, now 12,432, continues to skyrocket. To-date, the virus has infected ten times as many people as the ordinary seasonal flu. Most cases are in **California**, though there are confirmed cases in surrounding states. There is a growing fear the virus will soon spread throughout the entire country.

All schools and non-essential government offices in **Southern California** have been closed for the foreseeable future, with most private businesses following suit. A travel moratorium has been imposed prohibiting all non-emergency transit into and out of the **Los Angeles** area.

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Scene 6 (Day 14 – release of al-Qaeda tape/ PSA/ apology tape)

A short while ago, Al-Qaeda released a tape of Osama bin Laden claiming responsibility for the **Hollywood** flu outbreak. In his statement he addresses the American public directly, saying: “You, the American people, are suffering today because your leaders have failed you. As your leaders continue to spoil our well-being, our safety, our security, we will do so to you.”

Today marks a sobering milestone, with the reporting of the 2,000th death blamed on the **Hollywood** flu. There are also rumors that given the rampant spread of disease, Governor **Schwarzenegger** is considering calling in the National Guard to help enforce a dusk-to-dawn curfew.

Scene 7 (Day 15 – wrap-up)

The CDC has yet to develop a vaccine resistant to the **Hollywood** flu. It continues to caution Americans about the highly aggressive nature of the **Hollywood** flu strain, stressing that the symptoms can surface as soon as just a few hours after the time of exposure.

Health officials encourage that you take appropriate precautions by regularly washing your hands and wearing a face mask whenever in public. They are also now asking that if you are experiencing flu symptoms, please do NOT go to the hospital. Instead, if you or someone in your household appears infected, hang a white sheet from your front door. In-home care will be provided to patients as soon as possible by one of hundreds of medical vehicles currently patrolling the streets.

The suspected culprits of the attack remain at large, and there is concern the terrorists have left the country, giving rise to the potential for a global pandemic.