

# Surveillance and Specimen Collection for Swine Influenza A (H1N1) Virus from April 27, 2009

The Kentucky Department for Public Health is currently enhancing influenza surveillance activities to monitor for the presence of swine flu in Kentucky. Below are the current recommendations for swine flu surveillance and specimen collection in Kentucky. These recommendations are subject to change as new information becomes available.

The Kentucky Department for Public Health is currently requesting specimen samples for viral culture on all rapid flu tests positive for influenza A. Clinicians should also obtain a respiratory swab for viral culture on anyone who meets the following criteria:

- 1) A person with acute respiratory illness who was a close contact to a confirmed case of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection during the case's infectious period, OR
- 2) A person with an acute respiratory illness who traveled to an area where there are confirmed cases of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection within 7 days of illness onset.

**Close contact** is defined as: within about 6 feet of an ill person who is a confirmed or suspected case of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection during the case's infectious period.

**Acute respiratory illness** is defined as: recent onset of at least two of the following: rhinorrhea or nasal congestion, sore throat, cough (with or without fever or feverishness).

Clinicians should consider swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection in the differential diagnosis of patients with febrile respiratory disease and who 1) live in areas in the U.S. with confirmed human cases of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection or 2) who traveled recently to Mexico, California, Texas, New York, Kansas, and Ohio in the 7 days preceding their illness onset.

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