



To: All Associates and Volunteers

From: Infection Control

Date: April 30, 2009

Subject: Infection Control Guidance for Patients with Suspected Swine Virus Infection

For interview, assessment, and care of a suspect, probable, or confirmed swine influenza patient (meeting current case definition provided by the NYSDOH Bureau of Communicable Disease Control, April 26th 2009)

- Use an Airborne infection isolation room (AIIR) with negative pressure handling. If this is not available, use a single patient room with the door kept closed.
- Personnel and visitors should wear N95 respirators (or if unavailable, isolation/surgical masks). Don gowns, gloves, and eye protection (goggles) if coming within 6 feet of the patient for any reason.
- For suctioning, bronchoscopy, or intubation, use a procedure room with negative pressure handling. Personnel wear N95 respirators, gowns, gloves and goggles for the procedure.
- When care is completed, place all personal protective equipment (PPE) in a biohazard bag if disposable. Gowns, placed in covered hampers, to be laundered appropriately.
- **Maintain strict adherence to hand hygiene** by washing with soap and water or using hand sanitizer immediately after removing gloves and other equipment, and after any contact with respiratory secretions.
- Use all precautions (Standard, Contact, and Droplet) for all patient care activities.
- Continue precautions for 7 days after onset of illness and until all symptoms have resolved.

The ill person should wear a isolation/surgical mask when outside of the patient room, and should be encouraged to wash hands frequently and follow respiratory hygiene practices. Isolation trays are not required.

Routine cleaning and disinfection strategies used during the influenza season can be applied to the environmental management of swine influenza

The emergency department and registration areas should place signage at the entrances (in English and Spanish) directing patients with respiratory symptoms to request a mask. Supplies of masks, tissues and hand sanitizer should be kept available.

Updates will be made available as received. Questions may be directed to the Infection Control Department.