



CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

4/30/2009
Page 1 of 2

**Surveillance and Specimen Collection for
Swine-Origin Influenza A (H1N1) Virus (S-OIV)**

The Kentucky Department for Public Health is currently enhancing influenza surveillance activities to monitor for the presence of S-OIV 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 analysis on all rapid flu tests positive for influenza A**. Clinicians should also obtain a respiratory swab for viral analysis on anyone who meets the following criteria:

- 1) A person with acute respiratory illness who was a close contact to a confirmed case of S-OIV 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 S-OIV 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 S-OIV 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 S-OIV 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 S-OIV infection **OR 2)** who traveled recently to an area with confirmed S-OIV cases in the 7 days preceding their illness onset.

Packaging and Shipping instructions for swine influenza viral analysis:

Collect a nasopharyngeal swab using a Dacron tip and aluminum or plastic shaft and place immediately in M4RT or other viral transport media (DO NOT use Cotton Swabs).

- Place in specimen container with cold packs and ship immediately as "Biological substance, Category B UN 3373" (if unable to ship immediately then the specimen should be refrigerated).
- Specimens should be sent preferably by courier or as soon as possible and need to be received at the lab within 24 hours of procurement from patient.



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4/30/2009
Page 2 of 2

Send packaged samples to:

Division of Laboratory Services
100 Sower Blvd
Frankfort, KY 40601

- Should be submitted with Lab submission form 275 which can be printed from the lab website <http://chfs.ky.gov/dph/info/lab/>
- Please contact the lab at 502-564-4446 (normal business hours) or call 502-330-6235 (emergency number) with any questions.

Information about packaging and shipping specimens to the Division of Laboratory Services is online, <http://chfs.ky.gov/dph/info/lab/>.