Interim Guidance on Screening for Novel Influenza A (H1N1) as of 6/23/09

COLOR VERSION

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Patient has influenza-like (ILI) illness?  

No  

Patient requires hospitalization?  

No  

Consider treatment on case-by-case basis

Patient is high risk for complications?  

No  

Consider testing if result will influence decision to prophylax close contacts

Patient lives or works in congregate risk setting?  

No  

7-day symptom watch

Patient is close contact of a case?  

No  

Consider prophylaxis on case-by-case basis; 7-day symptom watch

Patient is unprotected HCW/responder?  

Yes

DEFINITIONS

1Influenza-like illness (ILI) = Temperature >100.4°F AND cough or sore throat.

2Testing = By PCR, preferably at the San Diego County Public Health Laboratory (619-692-8500).

3Treatment = Oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) or Zanamivir (Relenza®) twice daily for at least 5 days.

4High Risk = a) children < 5 years of age, b) adults ≥ 65 years of age, c) pregnant women, d) persons with immunosuppression (including that caused by medications or by HIV), e) residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities, f) persons <19 years of age receiving long-term aspirin therapy, and g) persons with any of the following medical conditions: chronic pulmonary (including asthma), cardiovascular (except hypertension), renal, hepatic, hematological (including sickle cell disease), neurologic, neuromuscular, metabolic disorders (including diabetes).

5Close Contact = Only relevant when last contact with the case occurred during the case’s infectious period (1 day before up to 7 days after the case’s symptom onset). Examples of close contact include kissing, sharing eating or drinking utensils, physical examination, or other contact between persons likely to result in exposure to respiratory droplets. Close contact typically does not include walking by an infected person or sitting across from a symptomatic patient in a waiting room or office.

6Case (H1N1) = Confirmed by PCR, probable by PCR, or suspect case of novel influenza A (H1N1) infection.

7Suspect case (H1N1) = A suspect novel influenza A (H1N1) infection in San Diego County is a person who has been evaluated by a healthcare provider and determined to have influenza-like illness (fever >100.4°F AND cough or sore throat) with no other known or likely etiology. A positive rapid test for influenza B will typically rule-out influenza A (H1N1) infection. A positive rapid test for influenza A is not diagnostic for novel influenza A (H1N1) infection; however, it may suggest further testing by PCR is indicated. See example below.

8Congregate risk setting = Examples include hospitals, jails, nursing homes and other group residential facilities. PCR testing for novel influenza A (H1N1) may be indicated in these settings when the patient had close contact (see above) with multiple persons, and prophylaxis of contacts is being strongly considered.

9Prophylaxis = Oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) or Zanamivir (Relenza®) once daily for 10 days.

10Unprotected HCW/responder = A healthcare worker (HCW), first responder or public health worker who had recognized, unprotected close contact (see above) with a confirmed, probable or suspect case of novel influenza A (H1N1) infection.
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1. **Influenza-like illness (ILI)** = Temperature >100.4°F AND cough or sore throat.
2. **Testing** = By PCR, preferably at the San Diego County Public Health Laboratory (619-692-8500).
3. **Treatment** = Oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) or Zanamivir (Relenza®) twice daily for at least 5 days.
4. **High Risk** = a) children < 5 years of age, b) adults ≥ 65 years of age, c) pregnant women, d) persons with immunosuppression (including that caused by medications or by HIV), e) residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities, f) persons <19 years of age receiving long-term aspirin therapy, and g) persons with any of the following medical conditions: chronic pulmonary (including asthma), cardiovascular (except hypertension), renal, hepatic, hematological (including sickle cell disease), neurologic, neuromuscular, metabolic disorders (including diabetes).
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- **Testing** and treatment
- **Patient has influenza-like (ILI) illness**?
  - Yes
    - **Patient requires hospitalization**?
      - Yes
        - **Patient has close contact of a case**?
          - Yes
            - **Patient is high risk for complications**?
              - Yes
                - **Patient is unprotected HCW/responder**?
                  - Yes
                    - **Consider prophylaxis on case-by-case basis; 7-day symptom watch**
                  - No
                    - **7-day symptom watch**
          - No
            - **No further action**
    - No
      - **No further action**
  - **No**
    - **Consider treatment on case-by-case basis**
    - **Consider testing if result will influence decision to prophylax close contacts**
    - **Patient lives or works in congregate risk setting**?
      - Yes
        - **Recommend no work, school or travel for 7 days post-onset OR 24 hours after symptom resolution (whichever longer)**
      - No
        - **No further action**
    - **No**
      - **Patient is close contact of a case**?
        - Yes
          - **Consider prophylaxis on case-by-case basis; 7-day symptom watch**
        - No
          - **No further action**
      - **No**
        - **No further action**

 County of San Diego, Health & Human Services Agency