



## NOTICE

Date: April 29, 2009

Dear Valued Clients:

Due to the current Swine Flu outbreaks, Foundation Laboratory will be following guidelines set forth by the Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC). As of writing of this memo there has been total of 91 cases (14 in California) reported with one fatality in Texas. According to CDC, clinicians should consider the possibility of swine influenza virus infections in patients presenting with febrile respiratory illness. If swine flu is suspected, clinicians should obtain a respiratory swab for swine influenza testing and place it in a refrigerator (not a freezer). Once collected, the clinician should contact California Department of Public health department to facilitate transport and timely diagnosis at a state public health laboratory.

CDC recommends that state and local health departments, hospitals, and clinicians in regions with few or no reported cases of S-OIV consider the following recommendations for testing of the following persons for S-OIV infection with a nasopharyngeal swab by PCR:

1. Patients presenting to providers participating in the US Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) who meet the case definition of influenza-like illness (ILI), or
2. Patients with an ILI who have traveled within 7 days to a community either within the United States or internationally where there are one or more confirmed swine influenza A (H1N1) cases, or
3. Patients admitted to the hospital with an ILI.

**ILI is defined as fever (temperature of 100°F [37.8°C] or greater) and a cough and/or a sore throat in the absence of a KNOWN cause other than influenza.**

**If swine flu is suspected, clinicians should obtain a respiratory swab for S-OIV testing (in M4 viral transport media, supplied by the health department; you can also call Foundation Laboratory to request this media) and place it in a refrigerator (not a freezer). Once collected, the clinician should contact the following:**

- **Call Mellissa at Department of Public Health for authorization: (213) 240-8342. This is to communicate the symptoms with the officials.**
- **Once authorization is provided, contact (562) 658-1460 to arrange specimen pick up.**

State public health laboratories will perform subtype testing on all influenza A positive samples identified.



There are NO quick screening tests for Swine Influenza virus. The recommended tests are PCR and viral cultures that will be performed at public health laboratories.

**Foundation Laboratory** is offering a Rapid Influenza A+B test. This is NOT a diagnostic test for S-OIV. However, it does test for influenza A and B group using NP swab, nasal swab, and nasal wash/aspirate specimens.

**Specimen Collection:**

- Nasal wash/aspirate: Collect nasal washes in standard sterile containers. Can be refrigerated up to 24 hours prior to testing.
- NP and Nasal swabs: Use Amies transport media swabs, provided for your culture needs.
- Labels the container/swab with patient's information.
- Laboratory requisition: Complete a requisition in the usual manner; please state test "Influenza A+B Rapid test".

For additional information, you can contact our client services department. Updated information and notices from CDC can be accessed through

[http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/casedef\\_swineflu.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/casedef_swineflu.htm)

For supplies and other needs please make sure to contact your Foundation Laboratory representative.

Sincerely;

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Director of Technical Operations