

Guidance for Avian Influenza A(H5N1) in Humans

Investigation Checklist for Local Health Departments

This checklist is to be used as a companion tool for the [Public Health Investigation Guidance document](#). Local health departments should follow these steps not necessarily in order when investigating suspect human cases of HPAI A(H5N1). Please contact the CDS influenza surveillance team at cdsfluteam@doh.nj.gov with any questions.

Epidemiologic, Clinical, and Public Health Response Criteria
<input type="checkbox"/> Assess if the case meets epidemiologic criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Exposure to HPAI A(H5N1) virus infected birds or other animals <input type="checkbox"/> Exposure to an infected person <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory exposure
<input type="checkbox"/> Obtain clinical information to assess if the case meets clinical criteria from patient/provider <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Mild illness: (cough, sore throat, eye redness or eye discharge such as conjunctivitis, fever or feeling feverish, rhinorrhea, fatigue, myalgia, arthralgia, headache) <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate to severe illness: shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, altered mental status, seizures <input type="checkbox"/> Complications: pneumonia, respiratory failure, acute respiratory distress syndrome, multi-organ failure (respiratory and kidney failure), sepsis, meningoencephalitis
<input type="checkbox"/> Work with CDS to check if the case meets public health response criteria
Reporting
<input type="checkbox"/> Use the Novel Influenza Worksheet to gather information from the case patient/parent/guardian
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure the case has been created in CDRSS case and update with all available information
<input type="checkbox"/> Submit the worksheet via encrypted email to cdsfluteam@doh.nj.gov or by fax to 609-826-5972
Testing
<input type="checkbox"/> Contact cdsfluteam@doh.nj.gov to request approval and coordinate testing at PHEL
<input type="checkbox"/> Share the Interim Guidance on Testing and Specimen Collection with the provider along with PHEL testing criteria for HPAI A(H5N1)
Infection Prevention and Control
<input type="checkbox"/> Provide recommendations for standard, contact, and airborne precautions and share Interim Guidance for Infection Control Within Healthcare Settings
<input type="checkbox"/> Encourage home isolation for non-hospitalized cases that meet criteria
Antiviral Treatment and Post-Exposure Prophylaxis
<input type="checkbox"/> Share with the provider the Interim Guidance on the Use of Antiviral Medications for Treatment of Human Infections with Novel Influenza A Viruses Associated with Severe Human Disease
<input type="checkbox"/> Provide antiviral post-exposure chemoprophylaxis details available at Interim Guidance on Influenza Antiviral Post-exposure Prophylaxis of Persons Exposed to Birds or Other Animals with Novel Influenza A Viruses Associated with Severe Human Disease or with the Potential to Cause Severe Human Disease
Contact Management
<input type="checkbox"/> Determine close contacts as soon as possible and enter identified contacts into the CDRSS case
<input type="checkbox"/> Categorize risk based on exposure groups as outlined here
<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor cases and close contacts for 10 days after last known exposure
CDRSS Documentation and Case Definition
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure case and contact information is complete, classify, and close case once investigation is complete