

## **Swine Influenza (H1N1): Investigation and Interim Recommendations**

To: Vermont Healthcare Providers, Hospital Emergency Departments, and Clinical Laboratories

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### **Swine Influenza A (H1N1): Update**

- As of 4/28/09, the CDC was reporting 64 confirmed human cases of swine influenza A (H1N1) in the United States. Confirmed cases remain in New York City, California, Texas, Kansas and Ohio. Based on this *limited* number of cases, it was noted today that 85% of U.S. cases have no travel history or link to a confirmed case.
- No confirmed or probable cases have been identified in Vermont. Surveillance is ongoing. Influenza testing is in progress for individuals meeting the testing criteria. Two cases have been ruled out through testing.
- The World Health Organization has raised the worldwide pandemic alert level to Phase 4. A Phase 4 alert is characterized by confirmed person-to-person spread of a new influenza virus able to cause “community-level” outbreaks.”

### **Swine Influenza A (H1N1): Priorities for Testing**

- If a patient meets the criteria for a suspect Swine Influenza A (H1N1) case (see algorithm on next page) or if you have any questions or concerns relating to swine influenza, please contact the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) Epidemiology Division at 802-863-7240 or 1-800-640-4374 (VT only).
- Please notify the VDH Epidemiology Division prior to submitting specimens for testing. Epidemiologists can be reached at the above numbers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- While the attached algorithm provides current priorities for testing, testing should also be considered for cases of severe illness in children and young adults, or for outbreaks in institutional settings.

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For more information concerning swine flu infection, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/> or <http://healthvermont.gov>.

**Priorities for Swine Influenza Testing**  
**Vermont Department of Health**  
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