



CDC Updates for Clinicians

Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA)
Emergency Communication System

May 21, 2009

In response to events surrounding the novel influenza A (H1N1) outbreak, we would like to provide you with the following information. Please share this information with other interested parties.

If you have any questions on these or other clinical issues, please write to us at coca@cdc.gov.

- [Clinical Reminder - Antiviral Guidance](#)
- [COCA Conference Call](#)
- [MMWR Reports](#)

Clinical Reminder - Antiviral Guidance

CDC recommends that antiviral treatment for novel influenza A (H1N1) be given as soon as possible after onset of symptoms for all hospitalized patients with confirmed, probable or suspected novel influenza (H1N1) and patients who are at higher risk for seasonal influenza complications. All hospitalized patients with novel influenza A (H1N1) infection should be monitored carefully and treated with antiviral therapy, including patients who seek care >48 hours after illness onset .

A recent study published in MMWR described diagnosis, medical conditions and treatment of 30 hospitalized patients in California with novel influenza A (H1N1) infection. The report indicated that 50% of 30 hospitalized patients received antiviral treatment with oseltamivir, and treatment was initiated within 48 hours of symptom onset in only 5 (16.6%) patients.

Among hospitalized patients with novel influenza A (H1N1), about half who have had chest x-rays done have findings consistent with pneumonia. Primary influenza virus pneumonia, with or without bacterial coinfection, is a potentially life-threatening illness. Empiric use of influenza antiviral medicines should be initiated as soon as possible for maximum benefit. If bacterial coinfection is suspected, antibacterials directed at likely pathogens such as *S. aureus* and *S. pneumoniae* should also be initiated after appropriate bacteria cultures are taken.

Antiviral Treatment for Novel (H1N1) Influenza <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/recommendations.htm>

MMWR: Hospitalized Patients with Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus Infection --- May 18, 2009 / 58(Early Release);1-5 California, April--May, 2009 <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm58e0518a1.htm>

COCA Conference Call

Title: Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Investigation Update and Guidance for Clinicians

Speakers: Anthony Fiore, MD and Timothy Uyeki, MD MPH MPP

Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2009
Time: 3:00PM ET

Call in number: 888-283-2960
Participant Passcode: 9697520

Please feel free to share this information with colleagues and interested parties.

MMWR Reports

Serum Cross-Reactive Antibody Response to a Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus After Vaccination with Seasonal Influenza Vaccine

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5819a1.htm>

Hospitalized Patients with Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus Infection --- California, April--May, 2009

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5819a6.htm>

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Please send us your feedback or comments: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/coca/feedback.htm>.

Our Clinician Communication Team is committed to excellence in reporting our weekly updates. Please e-mail coca@cdc.gov should you note any written errors or discrepancies.

If you need to unsubscribe or update your information, please go to our website:

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/clinregistry/userMaintenance2.asp>

If you need further information or technical help, please send an e-mail message to: coca@cdc.gov



Communicating With Clinicians

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