



Philadelphia Department of Public Health
Division of Disease Control

DONALD F. SCHWARZ, MD, MPH
Deputy Mayor, Health & Opportunity
Health Commissioner

NAN FEYLER, JD, MPH
Chief of Staff

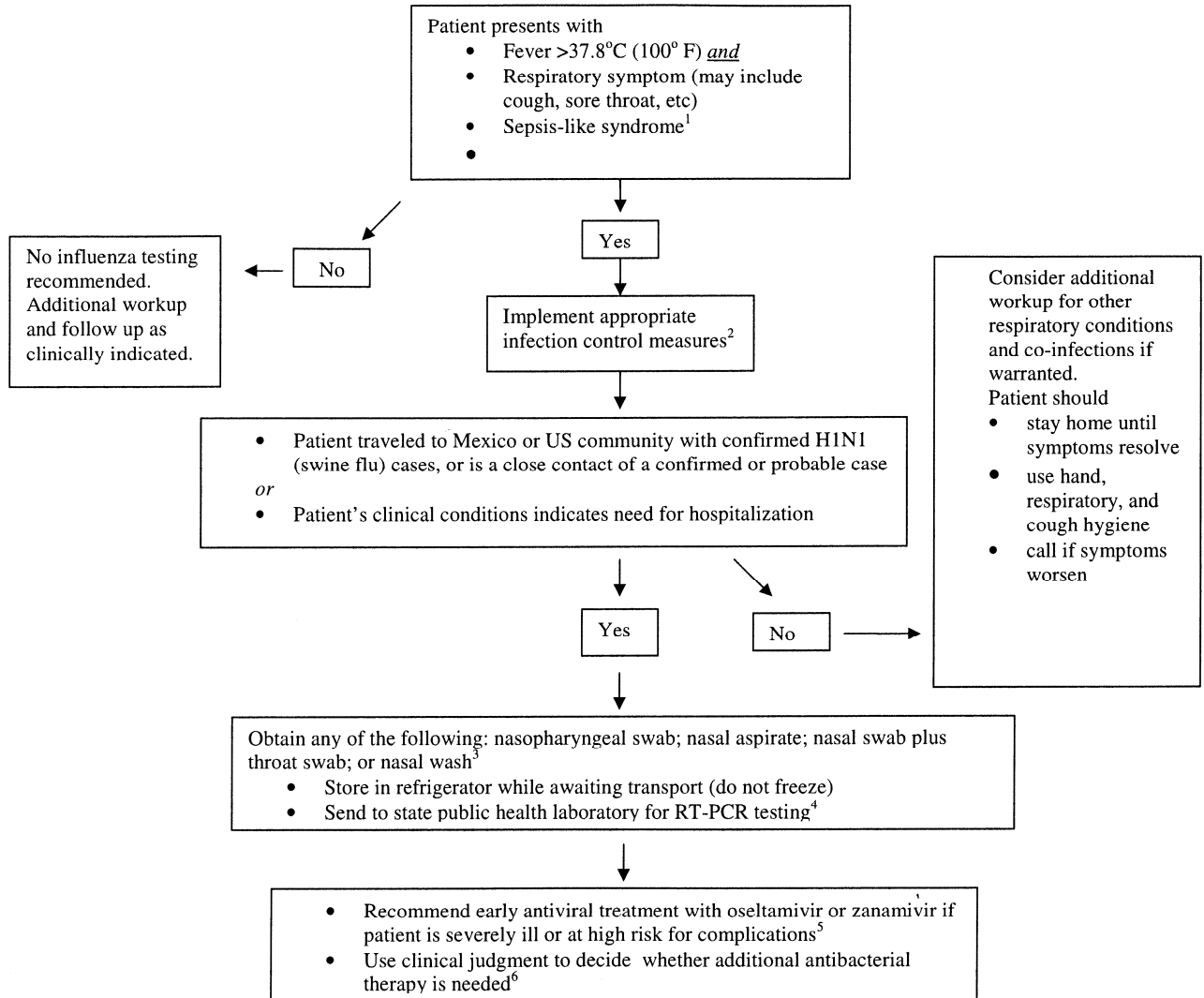
CAROLINE C. JOHNSON, MD
Director, Division of Disease Control

Health Advisory

Updated Recommendations for Swine-Origin Influenza Virus Testing May 1, 2009

The Division of Disease Control recommends that healthcare providers begin to use the following algorithm for testing persons suspected of having swine-origin influenza virus.

Algorithm to assist in decisions on testing and treatment for H1N1 (swine flu) Virus in Regions (state or metropolitan area) with Fewer than 5 confirmed Cases



1. As with seasonal influenza, infants, adults ≥ 65 years-old and persons with compromised immune systems may have atypical presentations.
 2. Information on infection control can be found at: http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/guidelines_infection_control.htm
 3. Nasal washes require appropriate personal protective equipment. See: http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/guidelines_infection_control.htm#43. Real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) is the preferred laboratory test for identifying H1N1 (swine flu) virus. Rapid antigen tests and immunofluorescence tests have unknown sensitivity and specificity to detect H1N1 (swine flu) virus. For more information, please see <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/specimencollection.htm>.
 5. Interim guidance for antiviral use can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/recommendations.htm>
 6. Interim guidance for clinicians is available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/identifyingpatients.htm>
- Please note:** these algorithms do *not* apply to providers participating in the US Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet). For guidance related to ILI Net see: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/screening.htm>