
INFECTION CONTROL AND SCREENING CRITERIA

1. RATIONALE: The following information is designed to protect EMS personnel during transport
 - 1.1 Follow standard and universal precautions (gloves, N-95 mask, eye protection) when transporting symptomatic patients. Use a gown if splash is possible
 - 1.2 If any influenza-like illness is in the community, place a procedure or surgical mask on the patient to contain droplets. If this is not possible (e.g.: a mask would further compromise respiratory status or too difficult for the patient to wear), have the patient cover his/her mouth/nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing or use the most practical alternative to contain respiratory secretions
 - 1.3 Unless medically necessary to support life, avoid aerosol generating procedures (e.g., mechanical ventilation). Metered dose inhalers with spacers may be used to deliver albuterol and/ or ipratropium if available. If you are performing an aerosol generating procedure on a person with a suspected infectious disease, you are required to wear a P-100 respirator during the procedure(s) and during transport.
 - 1.4 Optimize the vehicle's ventilation to increase the volume of air exchange during transport
 - 1.5 Follow standard operating procedures for routine cleaning of the emergency vehicle and reusable patient care equipment
 - 1.6 Special considerations for possible **novel influenza A**: If patient has influenza-like signs and symptoms with a documented fever, notify receiving facility

SUSPECTED SWINE (H1N1) INFLUENZA A

Close contact to confirmed/suspect case(s) AND one or more of the following:

- ▶ Attendance at a school, event or workplace that was closed due to H1N1 activity
- ▶ Documented fever > 38° C (100.4° F)
- ▶ Acute febrile respiratory illness
- ▶ Nasal congestion
- ▶ Rhinorrhea
- ▶ Sore throat or cough