



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

HEALTH ADVISORY: SWINE-ORIGIN INFLUENZA A (H1N1) VIRUS (S-OIV) INFECTION

Connecticut DPH Modifications of Existing CDC Guidelines: Droplet Precautions and N95 Respirators

Please distribute immediately to all staff in the Departments of Laboratory Medicine, Critical Care, Emergency Medicine, Family Practice, Internal Medicine, Infectious Disease:

May 2, 2009

After consultation with a group of Connecticut experts in infectious diseases, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) recommends the following modifications to the interim guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

- It is appropriate for hospitalized patients with confirmed, probable or possible swine flu to be cared for with droplet, rather than airborne, precautions. This means that patients should be placed in private, rather than negative pressure, rooms with appropriate use of gloves, paper masks, gowns and hand washing.
- Current usage of N95 Respirators should be confined to instances of direct airway manipulation (e.g., bronchoscopy, intubation, nasopharyngeal suction).
- If N95 respirators are either not available or in short supply, please follow the CDC **Interim Domestic Guidance on the Use of Respirators to Prevent Transmission of SARS**, May 3, 2005:
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/respirators.htm>.

These modifications of current CDC guidelines will be reevaluated and updated as new data are received.

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