

Actions Surrounding a Suspect or Confirmed case of Novel H1N1 Infection in Pigs

The pork industry has worked successfully for many years with State and Federal Animal Health Officials on programs that protect and improve the health of the U.S. Swine herd. The solid working relationships between State Animal Health Officials, attending swine veterinarians and pork producers provides the necessary health assurances that keep the pork industry moving on a daily basis. From a swine health perspective the novel H1N1 virus presents a risk to the U.S. herd. If the novel H1N1 is suspected or detected in U.S. pigs the normal working relationship between State Animal Health Officials, attending veterinarians and pork producers will be sufficient to manage and resolve the situation.

The information below outlines actions that will occur if novel H1N1 is suspected or confirmed in swine. **It is important to remember that State Animal Health Officials are the primary source of reliable information regarding any activities at the state level related to H1N1 in swine.**

Surveillance: State animal health officials will be notified that Novel H1N1 may be present in pigs:

- State Animal Health Officials would be notified of suspect cases through receiving diagnostic results from one of these sources:
 - a. University or state diagnostic lab
 - Samples submitted for routine animal health work-up and that are participating in SIV surveillance
 - b. First points of concentration – fairs or exhibitions
 - Influenza like symptoms in pigs at fairs or exhibitions
 - c. Official investigations that link pigs to sick humans
 - People that are confirmed with the Novel H1N1 and that have had recent contact with pigs

Upon notification the following actions will occur:

Actions:

- The State Animal Health Official will work in a confidential manner with the attending veterinarian and pork producer to investigate and monitor the pigs
 - If at a fair or exhibition, pigs showing signs of an active infection of influenza (as detailed in the USDA Surveillance Plan; high fever, loud barking cough, runny nose) may have nasal swab samples taken and be isolated from other pigs or returned to their originating premises
- Additional biosecurity practices will be implemented as warranted with the cooperation of the state animal health official, the attending veterinarian and the producer. Example biosecurity procedures can be found on www.pork.org.
- Samples from suspect pigs will be sent to a National Animal Health Laboratory Network diagnostic laboratory for screening and confirmation (if they have confirmation capabilities) or

the National Veterinary Services Laboratory for confirmation of Novel H1N1 infection and that information is reported back to the State Animal Health Official.

- A negative diagnosis for Novel H1N1 will bring the investigation and monitoring to a close and the attending veterinarian will continue to work with the pork producer to determine and treat the cause of the illness in pigs.
- A positive diagnosis of Novel H1N1 will result in the Actions listed under the confirmed case heading.

Confirmed Case: National Animal Health Laboratory Network diagnostic laboratory (if they have confirmation capabilities) or National Veterinary Services Laboratory confirms Novel H1N1 infection from a pig(s)

Actions:

- State NAHLN diagnostic lab or USDA officials notify the State Animal Health officials and the attending veterinarian of the test results
- State Animal Health officials will notify the attending veterinarian. If not already notified directly by the diagnostic lab, the State Animal Health Official and the attending veterinarian will be in contact with the pork producer to notify and to discuss actions.
 - Enhanced biosecurity in the herd if necessary
 - No movement of the pigs until clinical signs (as detailed in the USDA Surveillance Plan; high fever, loud barking cough, runny nose) have resolved or with the permission of the State Animal Health Official.
- USDA will notify the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) of the confirmed case of Novel H1N1 in pigs and the State where the case occurred while maintaining confidentiality of business information.
- USDA will provide regular situational updates to other federal agencies, State animal health officials, and pork industry as the infection is being managed

Monitoring Confirmed Cases: State Animal Health authorities are working with the attending veterinarian and pork producer to monitor sick pigs in a confirmed positive herd

Actions:

- Biosecurity protocols to manage the infection in the pigs and protect the health of the workers will be reviewed and implemented if necessary. Example protocols can be found on www.pork.org.
- Sick pigs will be monitored under the authority of the State Animal Health Officials by the attending veterinarian and pork producer until clinical signs (as detailed in the USDA Surveillance Plan; high fever, loud barking cough, runny nose) have resolved.
 - Pigs with clinical signs will remain in their location until the signs have resolved or the movement is approved by the State Animal Health Official.
- Recovered pigs can move normally through the production system.