



MINISTRY OF HEALTH
SINGAPORE



INFLUENZA A (H1N1-2009) PREVENTIVE MEASURES

Clinic Standard Operating Procedures (Issued 29 April 2009)

TRIAGE AND PATIENT DECLARATION ON REGISTRATION

- Triage of patients at reception to separate flu/febrile patients from other patients by checking symptoms & taking body temperature.
- Instruct patients to declare symptoms, contact and travel history in Patient Declaration Form.
- Instruct flu/febrile patients to wear surgical masks.
- Ensure flu/febrile patients are separated from other patients while in clinic.
- Keep list of all persons in clinic namely all healthcare workers, patients, & accompanying persons for contact tracing should suspect Influenza A (H1N1) case be diagnosed.

REFERRAL AND NOTIFICATION OF SUSPECT INFLUENZA A (H1N1) CASES

- Send suspect SVI patient to Emergency Medicine Department at TTSH by **dedicated ambulance service at 993**.
- Designate the route for patient to go from clinic to SVI ambulance pick-up point.
- **Notify MOH immediately** by contacting the Communicable Diseases Division at **98171463** (24 hours).
- MOH will inform the notifying doctor of the need for contact tracing and prophylaxis for close contacts of the case once the diagnosis is probable or confirmed.

ATTENDING TO SUSPECT OR PROBABLE INFLUENZA A (H1N1) CASES & DISINFECTION

- Keep number of staff attending to suspect or probable Influenza A (H1N1) cases to minimum.
- Wear N95 masks or its equivalent, gloves and disposable gowns.
- Wear visors or goggles when examining patient, performing procedures or resuscitation.
- Avoid use of nebulisers.

- Perform proper hand washing after contact with these patients.
- Disinfect instruments used for examination or procedures.
- Disinfect all surfaces, objects, furniture, and fixtures that are potentially contaminated.

ADMINISTRATIVE SURVEILLANCE OF HEALTHCARE WORKERS

- Monitor flu symptoms and temperature of all staff for at least twice a day – before work and at least once more during the day.
- All staff in the clinic who have fever (oral temperature more than 37.5°C) are not allowed to work.

INFECTION CONTROL MEASURES

- Ensure staff are trained to use personal protective equipment (PPE), including N95 mask, hand washing, cleaning of clinic and disposal of PPE.
- Practise hand washing or alcohol rub after each consultation to prevent transmission from doctor to patient.
- Clean contact surfaces of instruments used for examining patient (e.g. stethoscope), with alcohol wipes after each use.
- Dispose of sharps, biohazard waste including PPE masks and sheaths properly.

DOCTORS' INFORMATION HOTLINES

- **Hotline for GPs –**
CFPS: 6221 8608
(effective 5 May, open 8:30am to 6pm daily)
SMA: 6223 1264 (open 8:30am to 6pm Mon to Fri)
To speak to doctor colleagues for clarification and assistance when faced with perplexing situations on the ground.
- **Health Professional's Portal –**
URL: <http://www.hpp.moh.gov.sg/>
- **E-mail Enquiry –**
CFPS: gpflu@cfps.org.sg
SMA: swineflu@sma.org.sg
MOH: MOH_conversations@moh.gov.sg