

Suspected Influenza A (Avian Influenza, H5N1) and SARS

Avian Influenza A/H5N1

If Avian Influenza A/H5N1 is a possible diagnosis then before initial assessment:

- **Isolate patient**
- **Wear correct Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

Criteria for Possible Avian Influenza A/H5N1

Any person with acute severe respiratory infection:

- Fever > 38°C
- Lower respiratory tract symptoms (cough/shortness of breath)
- OR** CXR findings of consolidation
- OR** ARDS
- OR** Other severe illness suggestive of an infectious process

AND EITHER

Exposure **within 7 days** of symptom onset:

- a) Close contact (within 1 metre) with live, dying or dead domestic poultry or wild birds, inc live bird markets, **in a world area affected by Avian Influenza A/H5N1***
- OR** with any confirmed Influenza A/H5N1 animal
- OR**
- b) **Close contact** (providing care/touching/speaking distance within 1 metre) **with human case(s)** of severe unexplained respiratory illness/unexplained illness resulting in death **from listed areas***

* Bangladesh, China, Egypt, Indonesia and Vietnam plus countries listed at:
<http://www.oie.int/animal-health-in-the-world/update-on-avian-influenza>

If Criteria for Possible Avian Influenza A/H5N1 is met then management as below:

Management

- Adopt infection prevention and control precautions for **Severe Acute Respiratory Infections. (Management of patients with SARI guideline)**
- Discuss patient with Infectious Diseases consultant
- Start Oseltamivir treatment
- **Consider other possible causes of symptoms, including Malaria**
- Notify Health Protection Team (08.30 - 17.00 Monday – Friday
call 0131 465 5420 out of hours: 0131 242 1000 (ask for public health on call))

- Initiate urgent testing for Influenza A and respiratory viral screen
- Follow guidance from Health Protection Scotland (links below)

Links

<http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/resp/avianinfluenza.aspx>

<http://www.documents.hps.scot.nhs.uk/respiratory/avian-influenza/aialgorithms/investigation-management-H7N9-v3-2.pdf>

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/358676/2phase3contactsofconfirmedcasealgorithm20090101b.pdf

<http://www.documents.hps.scot.nhs.uk/respiratory/coronavirus/avian-influenza-mers-cov-ipcp-guidance-v7.2.pdf>

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