

## ZOONOTIC AND OTHER ANIMAL DISEASES OF CONCERN IN MARYLAND

**Table 1. New or Ongoing Morbidity or Mortality Animal or Zoonotic Disease Events**

Estimated first onset	Estimated end date	Counties affected	Species affected	Diagnosis	Estimated # of cases to date	Lead agency	Comment
July 2012	Ongoing	Indiana, Ohio, Hawaii, Illinois	Human	H3N2v influenza	153 as of 8/9/2012	DHMH	All cases associated with swine exposure
2011	Ongoing	Multiple	Swine	Swine influenza (H1N1, H1N2 and H3N2)	1400 confirmed	MDA	Ongoing swine influenza surveillance conducted by USDA

**For questions regarding specific disease events, please contact the lead agency noted. This contact information is for use by Maryland veterinarians and health professionals:**

MDA - Maryland Department of Agriculture: [ahops@mda.state.md.us](mailto:ahops@mda.state.md.us), 410-841-5810

DHMH - Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Center for Zoonotic and Vector-borne Diseases: [dhmh.czvbd@maryland.gov](mailto:dhmh.czvbd@maryland.gov), 410-767-5649

DNR - Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Fish & Wildlife Health Program, [FWHP@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:FWHP@dnr.state.md.us), 410-226-5193

### Swine Influenza and H3N2v Infections in Humans

As of August 9, 2012, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported 153 human cases of the novel H3N2v influenza virus (a swine-origin triple-reassortment influenza A virus first described in 2011) in residents of Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Hawaii since July 2012. Influenza viruses that circulate in swine are called swine influenza viruses when isolated from swine, but are called variant viruses when isolated from humans.

All of the human cases were associated with close exposure to swine. All cases had classic influenza symptoms; two were hospitalized and none has died. No human cases have been identified in Maryland, despite ongoing surveillance for novel influenza virus, including H3N2v. The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is distributing guidance regarding recognition and diagnostic testing for H3N2v in humans to healthcare providers and local health departments.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture has not identified this strain of H3N2 in swine in Maryland in 2012. ***We seek the collaboration of the veterinary, agricultural and fair communities for public education, for novel influenza virus surveillance, and for prevention of disease spread in the following ways (continued on next page):***

To report cases of disease in:	Contact:
<b>Domestic animals</b>	MDA Animal Health Program Office 410-841-5810 <a href="http://www.mda.state.md.us/animal_health/diseases/reportable.php">www.mda.state.md.us/animal_health/diseases/reportable.php</a>
<b>Wild animals</b>	MD DNR / USDA Wildlife Service Call Center 1-877-463-6497 <a href="http://www.whmn.org/wher/">http://www.whmn.org/wher/</a>
<b>Humans</b>	DHMH Center for Zoonotic and Vector-borne Diseases 410-767-5649 <a href="http://ideha.dhmf.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/SitePages/Home.aspx">http://ideha.dhmf.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/SitePages/Home.aspx</a>

## ZOONOTIC AND OTHER ANIMAL DISEASES OF CONCERN IN MARYLAND

### Swine Influenza and H3N2v Infections in Humans (continued):

#### Private practice veterinarians on the farm and in exhibitions are requested to:

- **Report any suspected influenza like illness (ILI) involving swine to the State Veterinarian at 410-841-5810, or 410-841-5971 after hours.** ILI signs include coughing, nasal or ocular discharge, inappetance, lethargy and/or a marked elevated temperature of 105 degrees Fahrenheit or above.
- Test swine with ILI. Use personal protective equipment (gloves, respirator, eye protection) when obtaining sample. The MDA Salisbury Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory is the screening laboratory for swine influenza testing in Maryland. Sampling and sample shipping requirements are provided in attachments.
- Discourage the movement or exhibition of any sick animal.
- Review resources provided from CDC, the National Pork Board, and others entities (see attachments).
- Educate producers, exhibitors and others in the risks and strategies for managing risks associated with SIV (see attached guidelines).
- Encourage any human with ILI and swine exposure to seek medical attention and alert their healthcare provider to their contact with swine.

#### Interim General Recommendations for the Public

- Persons who are at high risk for influenza complications (e.g., underlying chronic medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease, or neurological conditions, or who are pregnant or younger than 5 years, older than 65 years of age or have weakened immune systems) should consider avoiding exposure to pigs and swine barns this summer, especially if ill pigs have been identified.
- Persons engaging in activities that may involve swine contact, such as attending agricultural events or exhibiting swine, should wash their hands frequently with soap and running water before and after exposure to animals; avoid eating or drinking in animal areas; and avoid close contact with animals that look or act ill.
- Patients who experience influenza-like symptoms following direct or close contact with pigs and who seek medical care should inform their health care provider about the exposure.
- Patients with influenza-like illness who are at high risk for influenza complications (e.g., underlying chronic medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease, or neurological conditions, or who are pregnant or younger than 5 years, older than 65 years of age or have weakened immune systems) should see their health care provider promptly to determine if treatment with antiviral medications is warranted.
- Influenza viruses have not been shown to be transmissible to people through eating properly handled and prepared pork or other products derived from pigs.

#### Prevention Recommendations for Fair Attendees and Exhibitors

- Infectious animals can look healthy
- Wash hands frequently with soap and running water before and after exposure to animals
- Don't take food or drink into animal areas
- Never eat, drink or put things in your mouth while in animal areas
- Do not carry toys, pacifiers, spill-proof cups, baby bottles, strollers or similar items into areas with pigs
- Avoid close contact with animals that look or act ill
- Wash clothes when you get home
- Limit stroller and wheelchair use in animal areas
- Persons who experience influenza-like symptoms following direct or close contact with pigs and who seek medical care should inform their health care provider about the exposure.

## ZOONOTIC AND OTHER ANIMAL DISEASES OF CONCERN IN MARYLAND

### Swine Influenza and H3N2v Infections in Humans (continued):

#### Recommendations for Fair Organizers

- Visitors to fairs and exhibitions, particularly to animal barns including pigs, should receive information about disease risks and prevention recommendations .
- Whenever possible, facilities should minimize human-animal contact.
- Instruct visitors not to eat, drink, smoke, place their hands in their mouth, or use bottles or pacifiers while in areas with pigs
- Instruct visitors not to carry toys, pacifiers, spill-proof cups, baby bottles, strollers or similar items into areas with pigs
- Instruct visitors to supervise children closely to discourage hand-to-mouth activities, contact with manure, and contact with soiled bedding.
- Parents and children should be instructed to wash their hands after touching pigs or material contaminated by pigs (e.g., pig litter).
- Control visitor traffic to prevent overcrowding.

#### Additional resources:

- General CDC swine influenza web link: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swineflu/>
- Compendium of Measures to Prevent Disease Associated with Animals in Public Settings, 2011 available at <http://nasphv.org/documentsCompendiumAnimals.html>.

#### Attachments:

- Swine Influenza Virus (SIV) Sample Collection, Shipment And Testing at the Salisbury Animal Health Laboratory
- Swine Influenza Surveillance Form
- National Pork Board Guidelines to Swine Exhibitioners
- CDC poster "Take Action to Prevent the Spread of Flu Between People and Pigs at Fairs"
- National Pork Board "Good Habits that Keep You and Your Pigs Healthy"

## MARYLAND ANIMAL RABIES CASES, 2012

**Table 2. New (confirmed within the last four weeks) and Cumulative Rabies Cases, Week Ending August 10, 2012**

Jurisdiction	Bat Total (New)	Cat Total (New)	Cow Total (New)	Dog Total (New)	Fox Total (New)	Total	Groundhog Total (New)	Raccoon Total (New)	Skunk Total (New)	Other Total (New)	Total (New)
Allegany								1(1)		1(1)	2(2)
Anne Arundel	7(2)				1			6(1)	1		15(3)
Baltimore	2				1			8			11
Baltimore City	11(7)							4(3)			15(10)
Calvert		1							1		2
Caroline					1			2		1	4
Carroll					2			7(2)			9(2)
Cecil		3						6(1)	1		10(2)
Charles	5(2)							4	1(1)		10(3)
Dorchester		1									1
Frederick		1						18(3)		1	20(3)
Garrett								3(1)			3(1)
Harford	1							13			14
Howard								1			1
Kent											0
Montgomery	3				1			12(2)			16(2)
Prince George's	5(3)				1			2	2		10(3)
Queen Anne's					1			5(1)	1		7(1)
Somerset		1						4(1)			5(1)
St. Mary's		1(1)						4(1)	4(1)		9(3)
Talbot								4	1		5
Washington		1			2			3			5
Wicomico					2(1)			5	1		8(1)
Worcester								12			12
<b>Total (New)</b>	<b>34(14)</b>	<b>9(1)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12(1)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>124(17)</b>	<b>13(2)</b>	<b>3(1)</b>	<b>195(36)</b>

**Other: Sheep 1; Opossum 1; Deer 1(1)**

**For complete animal rabies data:**

<http://ideha.dhmv.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/SitePages/Home.aspx>

**To view previous versions of the Maryland One Health Bulletin (MOHB):**

[http://mda.maryland.gov/animal\\_health/diseases/bulletin.php](http://mda.maryland.gov/animal_health/diseases/bulletin.php)

**Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Weekly Biosurveillance Report:**

<http://preparedness.dhmv.maryland.gov/Pages/Programs/Biosurveillance>

**National Wildlife Health Center New and Ongoing Wildlife Mortality Events Nationwide:**

[http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/mortality\\_events?ongoing.jsp](http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/mortality_events?ongoing.jsp)

**U.S. Livestock and Poultry Disease Events and Trends:**

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health)

**Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Weekly Influenza Report:**

<http://www.marylandfluwatch.org/>

<b>SOP. VIROLOGY.01</b>	<b>Maryland Department of Agriculture Salisbury Animal Health Laboratory</b>	<b>Author  Bob Robison</b>
<b>Effective Date: 8/6/12</b>		
<b>Rev: 0</b>	<b>SWINE INFLUENZA VIRUS (SIV) SAMPLE COLLECTION, SHIPMENT AND TESTING AT THE SALISBURY ANIMAL HEALTH LABORATORY</b>	
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**SWINE INFLUENZA VIRUS (SIV) SAMPLE COLLECTION, SHIPMENT AND TESTING AT THE SALISBURY ANIMAL HEALTH LABORATORY**

**1.0 PURPOSE**

Swine Influenza Virus (SIV) is a type A influenza virus that causes acute, infectious respiratory disease in pigs. The disease is characterized by sudden onset, coughing, dyspnea, fever, prostration and rapid recovery. Lesions develop rapidly in the respiratory tract and regress quickly except in a few cases where severe viral pneumonia may be followed by death. Swine Influenza is caused by several subtypes of swine influenza virus (SIV). The subtype is defined based on the hemagglutinin (H) and neuraminidase (N) protein. Historically, pigs in the United States were infected only by H1N1 SIV. In 1998, H3N2 SIV was first recognized in the US as a subtype that maintained itself in the swine population. There have been reassortments of H1N1 and H3N2 viral genes to produce H1N2 SIV. Other subtypes have been indentified in swine throughout the world as stable lineages.

**2.0 SCOPE**

Swine Influenza Virus is a highly contagious viral infection of pigs. The respiratory signs of SIV in pigs include coughing (barking) nasal and/or ocular discharge, sneezing, and dyspnea. Fever in excess of 105°F may be observed with associated anorexia, weight loss, lethargy, prostration, huddling and piling. Most pigs recover within 5-7 days in the absence of complications. Complicated infections can extend recovery times and dramatically increase the mortality rate. Clinical signs associated with the new Novel H1N1 2009 Virus are unknown. Classical SIV clinical infection of swine presents as an acute upper respiratory disease. The incubation period is 1-3 days..Morbidity can reach 100% and mortality in confirmed cases can range from 1-3% in the absence of complications. Furthermore, reassortant SIV is of increasing zoonotic concern due to its capability of exchanging genetic material with influenza viruses of other species, particularly human and avian hosts and to rapidly mutate.

Diagnosis of SIV infection is based on a number of things, including several of the following: clinical signs, gross and microscopic lesions, detection of virus through isolation on cell culture, detection of nucleic acid, and/or four -fold change in antibody titer on paired sera.

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### **3.0 EPIDEMIOLOGY**

Disease onset is acute and dramatic. Normal animals can become very sick within hours. The virus is primarily excreted through nasal secretions during the acute febrile stage of the disease. Pigs can begin shedding the virus within 24 hours of infection and may continue to shed for up to 10 days. Abortion rates in herds can be widespread and reach as high as 10 percent very quickly. Management systems, husbandry procedures and poor biosecurity practices can result in the introduction of SIV into a herd. Influenza viruses are spread easily by people and contaminated equipment moving between infected and non-infected herds. Exposure to wildlife, shore birds and waterfowl, especially ducks, presents additional opportunities for the introduction of an influenza virus into a swine herd. Once an influenza virus is established in a herd, it is able to replicate and undergo genetic drift and reassortment regardless of its origin.

### **4.0 PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

The following guidelines are recommended by USDA when handling or sampling potentially infected animals:

1. Employees who have been in contact with swine, their feces, respiratory secretions or potentially contaminated surfaces must wash their hands frequently. Hand hygiene also much be performed immediately after gloves are removed.
2. When working around swine with known **or** suspected Novel H1N1 2009 Virus, the following protective equipment must be used.
  - a. Protective clothing capable of being disinfected or discarded, preferably coveralls.
  - b. Double gloves capable of being disinfected or discarded. Gloves should be changed if torn or otherwise damaged.
  - c. Respirators: the minimum recommendation is a disposable particulate respirator (N95, N99 or N100) used as part of a comprehensive respiratory protection program. For workers performing vigorous and prolonged activities involving Novel H1N1 2009 Virus infected swine, full face hooded powered purifying respirators (PAPR) should be considered.
  - d. Eye Protection (goggles, or full face shield)
  - e. Boots or protective foot covers that can be disinfected or discarded.

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All personnel should self monitor for fever and any symptoms. Symptoms of Novel H1N1 2009 Virus infection include cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, runny nose and muscle aches. Any illness should be reported to your supervisor immediately.

## **5.0 SAMPLE COLLECTION**

The following guidelines should be followed by Maryland Department of Agriculture personnel or Agents of the State (accredited veterinarians) when collecting samples for SIV testing.

1. Animals to be sampled should be in the acute phase of the disease exhibiting high fever (105°F) with serous nasal discharge and cough.
2. Nasal swabs are the specimens of choice for rRT-PCR testing. **Swabs from more than one animal should not be pooled together.** It is necessary to have a cooler with ice packs, if field sampling, to keep the BHI or viral transport media cold before and after the samples are taken. Environmental swabs for the detection of viable virus are inappropriate specimens for rRT-PCR and are tested by virus isolation at NVSL.
3. Label tubes with the animal identification number for traceback if needed. A complete history of the case should be included:
  - a. The attending practitioner name and contact information
  - b. Owner's name and contact information
  - c. Date collected
  - d. Collection site location (address including State, zip code and Premise ID, if applicable)
  - e. Collection site type (producer, farm, market, auction, expo, fair, etc.)
  - f. Age class of swine such as (sow, boar, grower, finisher, nursery, suckling)
  - g. Specimen type (nasal swab)
  - h. Reason for submission

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4. Use Dacron swabs (not calcium alginate swabs) for nasal swab submissions. After swabbing both nostrils, place the swab in a tube containing 3 ml of BHI, or Viral Transport Media (VTM) and rotate the swab several times in the liquid media. When removing the swab from the tube, press the swab against the side of the tube repeatedly to extract most of the fluid from the swab. Remove the swab and discard in a biohazard container for later disposal. Tightly cap the tube and wrap parafilm around the cap to prevent leaking. Place the tube(s) in double whirl-pak bags and secure with sufficient ice packs to keep samples cold for overnight shipment to the Salisbury Animal Health Laboratory at the following address: Please notify the laboratory by phone that samples are being sent so they can expect and plan for their arrival for testing.

Maryland Department of Agriculture  
Animal Health Laboratory  
27722 Nanticoke Road, Unit 3  
Salisbury, Md. 21801  
Phone: 410-543-6610  
Fax: 410-543-6676

## **5.0 DISINFECTANTS**

Several types of disinfectants will inactivate swine influenza virus (SIV). These are 70% alcohol, 10% Bleach, 5% Lysol and Virkon-S

## **6.0 SAMPLE SHIPMENT AND CONFIRMATION**

The Salisbury Animal Health Laboratory has been approved by NVSL and has the capability to differentiate between Swine Influenza Virus (SIV) and Novel H1N1 2009 Virus by Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) testing with referral follow-up by virus isolation and gene sequencing of the virus isolate at NVSL.

Ship samples to the Salisbury Animal Health Laboratory as soon as possible for testing. Please ensure that enough ice packs are included to keep the sample(s) cold during shipment. Please pack samples according to IATA regulations pertaining to UPS or FedEx shipment and ship overnight.

For biosecurity purposes, please call the laboratory and inform them that samples are being sent for Swine Influenza Testing. The laboratory staff will take appropriate measures to handle the samples upon receipt in a biosafety containment cabinet using



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appropriate biosecurity precautions.

## 7.0 REFERENCES

**7.1** Guidelines for Novel H1N1 2009 Virus in Swine in the United States, USDA, APHIS Publication, August 7, 2009.

**7.2** Diseases of Swine, Swine Influenza, B.C. Easterday, p. 244, University of Iowa, 1986.

**7.3** SOP-BPA-9034.06 Real-Time RT-PCR for the Detection of Type A Swine Influenza Virus and Identification of A Novel N1 Subtype in Clinical Samples, NVSL, June 2012.

**7.4** SOP-BPA-9328.01 Real-Time RT-PCR Sub typing Type A Swine Influenza Virus in Clinical Samples, NVSL, June 2012.

Approved by:

  
 N. J. Chapman, DVM, Assistant State Veterinarian



Laboratory Director:

Claudia Osorio, DVM, MSpVM, Dipl.ACPV



Quality Assurance Officer:

Robert Robison

Date:

August 6, 2012

Maryland Department of Agriculture  
Salisbury Animal Health Laboratory  
27722 Nanticoke Road, Unit 3  
Salisbury, MD 21801  
Phone: (410) 543 6610

**SWINE INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM**  
**Swine Influenza Testing Submission Form**

**LAB USE ONLY**

LIMS ACCESSION # \_\_\_\_\_

ACCESSIONED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

NVSL BARCODE: \_\_\_\_\_

TIME / DATE RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Chain of custody: Person performing task must initial

Sample prep for testing : \_\_\_\_\_

PCR Technician : \_\_\_\_\_

Disposal : \_\_\_\_\_

TIME / DATE REPORT OUT: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE COLLECTED:	COLLECTED BY:
	DELIVERED BY:
COLLECTION SITE LOCATION: COUNTY: _____ PREMISE ID: (if applicable) _____	
ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____	
STATE: _____	ZIP CODE: _____
COLLECTION SITE TYPE: (Circle one) PRODUCER FARM MARKET AUCTION EXPO FAIR	
OTHER: ( Specify)	
AGE: (weeks – days)	SPECIMEN TYPE:
SAMPLE ORIGIN:	NECROPSY: SURVEILLANCE:
CLASS OF SWINE: (Circle one) SOW BOAR GROWER FINISHER NURSERY SUCKLING	
OTHER: ( Specify)	
TOTAL NUMBER IN HERD:	
ATTENDING PRACTICIONER NAME: _____	
CONTACT INFORMATION: PHONE: _____ FAX: _____	
ADDRESS: _____	
E-MAIL: _____	

Maryland Department of Agriculture  
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**SWINE INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM**  
**Swine Influenza Testing Submission Form**

OWNER'S NAME: _____
CONTACT INFORMATION: PHONE: _____ FAX: _____
ADDRESS: _____
E-MAIL: _____
<b>Mortality : (per day)</b>
<b>HISTORY: (reason for submission)</b>
<b>TREATMENT: (if any)</b>



## National Pork Board

1776 NW 114<sup>th</sup> Street, Clive, Iowa 50325

pork.org | Toll-free: 800-456-7675 | Phone: 515-223-2600 | Fax: 515-223-2646

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Dear Swine Exhibitor and Parents:

As the 2012 State Fair season is upon us, everyone needs to take steps to ensure that show pigs stay healthy. Influenza or “flu” occasionally can be transmitted from people to pigs and pigs to people. In order to keep you and your animals healthy and protect the pig farms across the country, here are some recommendations for you to follow:

- If anyone in your family has flu-like symptoms, please do not attend fairs/exhibitions for 7 days after symptoms begin or until you have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications, whichever is longer.
- If any of your pigs show signs of flu-like illness on the farm, check with your veterinarian before bringing your pigs to the fair/exhibition.

While at the show, take these simple precautions to protect yourself and others:

- Wash your hands often with soap or use an alcohol-based hand cleaner, especially after you cough or sneeze or have contact with animals.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If a tissue is not readily available, use your elbow joint to minimize hand contact.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Do not eat or drink near animals or animal pens.
- During the fair/exhibition, monitor your pigs for any signs of illness and report any illness to the veterinarian on-call.
- When you come home from a fair/exhibition, be sure to quarantine your hogs, disinfect your trailer and equipment (show boxes, feed pans, etc.), and watch for any illness in your pigs. For more information, refer to “A Champion’s Guide to Youth Swine Exhibition: Biosecurity” available at [www.pork.org](http://www.pork.org).

We appreciate your cooperation at fairs/exhibitions this summer. It is the shared responsibility of every pork producer, our state associations and related industry groups to work together to protect herd health and public health. Please take this opportunity to be proactive in helping to protect the future of our industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Conley Nelson".

Conley Nelson,  
National Pork Board President

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**Vision:** Leading a world-class food industry. Responsible. Sustainable. Professional. Profitable.

**Mission:** The National Pork Board harnesses the resources of all producers to capture opportunity, address challenges and satisfy customers.

# TAKE ACTION TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF FLU BETWEEN PEOPLE AND PIGS AT FAIRS

*Pigs are commonly infected with swine influenza (swine flu) viruses that are usually different from human influenza viruses. While rare, influenza can spread from pigs to people and from people to pigs. When people get swine flu, it's usually after contact with pigs. This has happened in different settings, including fairs. Right now, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is concerned about a new influenza virus that has been found in U.S. pigs and has infected people too. This virus – called H<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>v when it infects people – may spread more easily to humans than is usual for swine flu viruses.*

**There are ways to reduce the spread of influenza viruses between pigs and people.**

CDC recommends you:

- Wash your hands often with soap and running water before and after exposure to pigs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Never eat, drink or put things in your mouth in pig areas, and don't take food or drink into pig areas.
- Never take toys, pacifiers, spill-proof cups, baby bottles, strollers or similar items into pig areas.
- Avoid close contact with pigs that look or act ill.
- Avoid contact with pigs if you are experiencing flu-like symptoms. Avoid contact for 7 days after symptoms begin or until you have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications, whichever is longer.
- Watch your pigs for signs of illness and call a veterinarian if you suspect they might be sick.
- Children younger than 5 years, people 65 years and older, pregnant women, and people with certain chronic medical conditions (like asthma, diabetes, heart disease, weakened immune systems, and neurological or neurodevelopmental conditions) are at high risk from serious complications if they get influenza. **These people should consider avoiding exposure to pigs and swine barns this fair season, especially if sick pigs have been identified.**
- Take appropriate protective measures if you must come in contact with pigs if you are experiencing flu-like symptoms, or if you must be in the vicinity of pigs known or suspected to be infected with influenza viruses. Protective measures include wearing protective clothing, gloves, masks that cover your mouth and nose, and other personal protective equipment. Always cover coughs and sneezes, and wash your hands often.

A seasonal flu vaccine will not protect people against H<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>v, but there are influenza antiviral drugs that can treat human H<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>v illness as well as infection with seasonal influenza viruses. These antiviral drugs must be prescribed by a physician. Early antiviral treatment is most effective for treating influenza, so see a physician as soon as illness hits.

For more information:

Telephone: 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)/TTY: 1-888-232-6354,8

Email: [cdcinfo@cdc.gov](mailto:cdcinfo@cdc.gov) Web: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swineflu/influenza-variant-viruses-h3n2v.htm>

August 9, 2012

National Center for Immunization & Respiratory Diseases

Influenza Division



# Good Habits that Keep You and Your Pigs Healthy

Influenza or “flu” occasionally can be transmitted from people to pigs and pigs to people. In order to keep you and your animals healthy and protect pig farms across the country, here are some recommendations to follow:

- If anyone in your family has flu-like symptoms, please do not attend fairs/exhibitions for 7 days after symptoms begin or until you have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications, whichever is longer.
- If any of your pigs show signs of flu-like illness on the farm, check with your veterinarian before bringing your pigs to the fair/exhibition.



**While at the show,** take these simple precautions to protect yourself and others:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water, or use an alcohol-based hand cleaner, especially after you cough or sneeze or have contact with animals.



- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If a tissue is not readily available, use your elbow joint to minimize hand contact.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Do not eat or drink near animals or animal pens.
- During the fair/exhibition, monitor your pigs for any signs of illness and report any illness to the veterinarian on-call.

- When you come home from a fair/exhibition, be sure to quarantine your hogs, disinfect your trailer and equipment (show boxes, feed pans, etc.), and watch for any illness in your pigs. For more information, refer to “A Champion’s Guide to Youth Swine Exhibition: Biosecurity” available at [www.pork.org](http://www.pork.org).

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