

## **TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUSPECTED HUMAN SWINE INFLUENZA IN VENTURA COUNTY**

**Health Department officials are concerned that without the judicious use of antiviral medications the supply will become depleted.**

**Antiviral treatment is recommended\* for those patients meeting the clinical and contact criteria listed below AND for those with symptoms present less than 48 hours. No benefit from antiviral treatment has been demonstrated in patients with symptoms greater than 48 hours.**

**Antiviral chemoprophylaxis is currently not recommended for healthy household or school contacts of suspected SIV cases. Healthy close contacts of documented SIV cases should be treated for their infection if they become symptomatic. Prophylaxis should be reserved for those close household and school contacts with high risk chronic diseases, ie. chronic lung disease, diabetes, heart disease, etc. Other individuals who may receive prophylaxis include 1) travelers to Mexico with high risk medical conditions, and 2) healthcare workers who were not wearing adequate personal protective equipment when exposed to confirmed cases of SIV.**

**Case Definition: A diagnosis of suspected human swine influenza virus (SIV) infection is based on (A) clinical symptoms and contact history, or (B) severity of illness:**

**A. Clinical symptoms:**

**1. One of the following respiratory symptoms: cough, rhinorrhea, or sore throat,**

**AND**

**2. One of the following systemic symptoms or signs: fever > 100 °F, myalgias, chills, sweats, headache,**

**AND**

**Contact history:**

**3. Close contact with confirmed SIV case OR,**

**4. Close contact with animal with SIV OR**

**5. Travel to or from a county or country where SIV has been reported,**

**B. Hospitalized patients with severe pneumonia consistent with influenza.**

**This bulletin is intended to improve the public health in Ventura County. The above recommendations may be updated as more information is available regarding the virulence of the present human swine influenza pandemic.**

**\*As with treatment of any influenza illness the physician should discuss benefits and risks of therapy with antiviral medications.**

**4/28/09 Ventura County Public Health**

**Paul Russell, MD, Angelo Salvucci, MD, and Robert Levin, MD**