

Laboratory

H1N1 INFLUENZA

Protocol Overview and Methods:

Influenza A 2009/ H1N1, or pandemic 2009/H1N1: The first cases of 2009 flu A/ H1N1 were reported in the spring of 2009. It was originally referred to as "swine flu" because the virus also circulates in pigs. It is now considered a human seasonal flu virus. Symptoms are similar to other seasonal viruses, and individuals cannot get the virus from pork or pork products.

The best protection against influenza 2009 A/H1N1 is vaccination. The current vaccine has proven efficacy against this strain.

DPHL is using the real time reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (qRT-PCR) assay that was developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to test for the 2009 Influenza A H1N1. Any specimens that DPHL is unable to subtype as influenza A will be sent to CDC's Influenza Division for further diagnostic testing.

Contact Information: DPHL Director: 302-223-1520. Answering service is available at the

same number during non-business hours.

For More Information: 24/7 CDC Emergency Contact Number: 1-888-295-5156

http://www.cdc.gov/az/

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Revised: 01/2016 Page 1 of 1