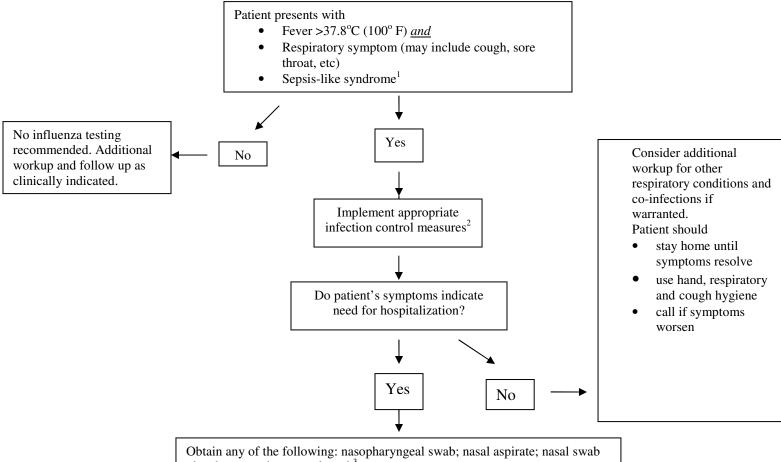
Algorithm to assist in decisions on testing and treatment for H1N1 (swine flu) Virus in Regions (state or metropolitan area) with 5 or more Confirmed Cases



plus throat swab; or nasal wash³

- Store in refrigerator while awaiting transport (do not freeze)
- Send to state public health laboratory for RT-PCR testing⁴
- Recommend early antiviral treatment with oseltamivir or zanamivir if patient is severely ill or at high risk for complications⁵
- Use clinical judgment to decide whether additional antibacterial therapy is needed⁶
- 1. As with seasonal influenza, infants, adults ≥65 years-old, and persons with compromised immune systems may have atypical presentations.
- 2. Information on infection control can be found at: http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/guidelines infection control.htm
- 3. Nasal washes require appropriate personal protective equipment. See: http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/guidelines_infection_control.htm
- 4. Real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) is the preferred laboratory test for identifying S-OIV. Rapid antigen tests and immunofluorescence tests have unknown sensitivity and specificity to detect S-OIV H1N1. For more information, please see http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/specimencollection.htm.
- 5. Information on use of antiviral agents can be found at: http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/recommendations.htm
- 6. Interim guidance for clinicians is available at: http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/identifyingpatients.htm