CLINICAL SUSPICION FOR INFLUENZA

- Fever (>37.8°C/100°F) or history of fever, but may not always be present
- Cough
- Myalgia
- Headache
- Sudden onset of symptoms

TIME PERIOD #3  Widespread Influenza Activity

Start

Is there a clinical suspicion for Influenza? (see box)

Yes

Place patient on Droplet Precautions isolation

Is patient going to be admitted?

Yes

Consider empiric Influenza diagnosis

No

Is patient sick or high risk? (see box)

Yes

Treat empirically

No

Don’t test

Is there a clinical suspicion for Influenza? (see box)

No

Is test Positive?

Yes

Rapid Antigen Test

Influenza confirmed

Cannot exclude influenza

Perform PCR test (if available)

Start empiric treatment

No

Influenza unlikely; Generally no treatment needed

Discontinue isolation if not needed for other diagnoses

Is test Positive?

PCR Test

Influenza confirmed

Is patient going to be admitted?

Yes

Consider empiric Influenza diagnosis

No

Is patient sick or high risk? (see box)

Yes

Treat empirically

No

Definitive

Influenza confirmed

Perform Influenza test (PCR preferred if available)

DEFINITION OF SICK PATIENT:
Admitted or moderately severe illness

DEFINITION OF HIGH RISK:
Any of the ACIP high-risk conditions

1. Comorbidities
   a. Chronic heart/lung (including asthma)
   b. Liver/renal/heme/neuro/metabolic disease

2. Age
   a. Infant
   b. Adults age 65 and over

3. Immunocompromised

4. Pregnant

5. Morbid obesity (BMI ≥40)

6. Residents of long-term care facilities

7. American Indian / Alaskan natives

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