

No.50-315/2009-LDT(AQ)
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 5th October, 2009

To

**The Commissioner/Director
Department of Animal Husbandry/Veterinary Services/ Animal
Resources Development,
All the States/UTs**

Subject: Proforma of epidemiological enquiry form for Swine Influenza (H1N1).

Sir/Madam,

Please refer to this Department's letter of even number dated 24th August, 2009, mentioning advisory on Pandemic Influenza (H1N1) in animals. Swine Influenza has been reported in pigs in some countries like Canada, Argentina, Australia, United Kingdom and Chile. The Government of India has communicated the guidelines and advisories to all the States/UTs for intensive surveillance in pigs and refer the suspected samples to the HSADL, Bhopal, the referral laboratory for Swine Influenza (H1N1).

2. The Government of India devised a proforma on 'Epidemiological Enquiry Form' and is enclosed for ready reference. All the State/UT Governments should circulate the format to all the veterinarians/ paraveterinarians in the State, so that the same should be followed during referring any samples(s) to the referral laboratory for diagnosis of Swine Influenza (H1N1).

3. It would also be recommended to specify the place of incidence if any, indicating the nomenclature of village, block and district instead of 'para', police station' etc.

Yours faithfully,



(A.B. Negi)
Joint Commissioner (LHS)

Guidelines for collection & dispatch of samples from pigs for diagnosis of Swine Influenza

- From live animals, nasal or pharyngeal swabs and from dead or sacrificed animals the airway swab (swab from larger bronchioles after cutting into lung lobes) may be collected.
- Use Dacron or other synthetic fibre swabs (having aluminium or plastic shaft. wooden shafts are not recommended) in phosphate-buffered saline pH 7.0-7.4 or glycerol saline with added antibiotic and antimycotics [benzyl penicillin (2000IU/ml), streptomycin(200µg/ml), gentamycin (250µg/ml), nystatin (500IU/ml) or amphotericin B (2µg/ml)]
- Use of commercially available viral transport media (VTM) and swabs with antibiotics & antimycotics is easier and preferred.
- Lung/trachea from naturally dead or sacrificed animals can be sent under similar conditions. Affected portions of lung tissue, usually the hilar area and adjacent portions of cranial, middle and caudal lung lobes or ventral portions of these lobes are preferred.
- Samples are to be kept at 4°C and transported to HSADL, Bhopal within 48 hours and to be kept at -70°C, shipped with dry ice if they are sent after a longer delay. The samples have to be packed properly before transportation.
- For serology, serum samples (1-2ml) should be collected from all sick and suspected pigs as well as from representative healthy pigs from the same herd and to be sent to HSADL, Bhopal.
- For routine surveillance work, collection of nasal or pharyngeal swabs and sera samples are to be made randomly selected pigs (10%of total) of each age group (3-12 months young age group, 12 months and older adults). In any case minimum nasal or pharyngeal swabs and sera samples from one farm should be 3-5 each.
- Along with the samples an epidemiological form also needs to be filled and submitted.

Epidemiological Enquiry Form

1. Name and address of the farmer/farm: _____

2. Species from which the samples collected : _____

3. Species of livestock / birds in the farm (Please write the number of animals)

Pig	Poultry (Turkey/Duck/Goose/Guinea fowl/Quail/Chicken)	Others (Pl Specify)

4. System of rearing:

Organised farm:

Unorganised:

5. Breed : _____

6. Age of the Pig: _____ months/year

7. Clinical signs if any: _____

8. Date of collection of samples _____

9. Date of start of the outbreak (if applicable): _____

10. Pigs showing clinical symptoms (if applicable):

11. Mortality pattern (if applicable):

12. Vaccination history:

13. Post mortem findings (if applicable): _____

14. Type and number of samples sent:

- a) Tissue (Please specify): Name of the tissue: _____ No: _____
b) Swab Nasal/Oropharyngeal No: _____
c) Serum: _____ No: _____

15. Name of the Medium/preservative used: _____

16. Tentative diagnosis (if applicable): _____

(Signature, Name & Address of the officer)