

Interim Guidance for Persons Exposed to Animals Infected with Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

	Symptomatic persons exposed to animals infected with HPAI A(H5N1) virus	Asymptomatic persons exposed to animals infected with HPAI A(H5N1) virus who reported not wearing recommended PPE or who experienced a breach in recommended PPE
Testing	H5 testing is strongly recommended and should be made a priority. Specimens should be collected as soon as possible after illness onset and timed appropriately, given the exposure and monitoring period dates. Note: Molecular will run the CDC Influenza A/H5 Dx Panel and CDC Influenza/SARS-CoV-2 Multiplex Assay. Virology will run the BioFire respiratory panel if a negative result is indicated on FluSC2 Assay.	H5 testing should be offered if still within 10 days from last exposure. Note: Molecular will run the CDC Influenza A/H5 Dx Panel and CDC Influenza/SARS-CoV-2 Multiplex Assay.
Specimen Collection	Specimens should be collected while following recommended infection control precautions . Specimens should be packaged and shipped according to instructions by the Missouri State Public Health Laboratory (MSPHL). Specimens may be sent via the MSPHL courier system. A list of courier locations can be found online .	
Treatment/ Prophylaxis	It is recommended the person speak with their provider about treatment . Please advise they call ahead to medical provider if they are going to seek medical care and be seen by a medical provider.	It is recommended the person speak with their provider about prophylaxis .
Isolation	Isolation and avoiding exposure to others is recommended until test results are received or symptoms improve/resolve if testing is not performed.	Isolation is not recommended unless the person tests positive for H5. Quarantine is not currently recommended.
Monitoring	Monitoring should continue through 10 days from the last exposure for any changes in symptoms.	Monitoring should continue through 10 days from the last exposure.

References:

- [Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A\(H5N1\) Virus: Interim Recommendations for Prevention, Monitoring, and Public Health Investigations](#)
- [Laboratory and Testing Information for Novel Influenza A Viruses](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Infection Control Within Healthcare Settings When Caring for Confirmed Cases, Probable Cases, and Cases Under Investigation for Infection with Novel Influenza A Viruses Associated with Severe Disease](#)
- [Instructions for the collection and submission of Avian Influenza A \(H5N1\) or Avian Influenza A \(H7N9\) specimens for testing at the Missouri State Public Health Laboratory](#)
- [Interim Guidance on the Use of Antiviral Medications for Treatment of Human Infections with Novel Influenza A Viruses Associated with Severe Human Disease](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Follow-up of Close Contacts of Persons Infected with Novel Influenza A Viruses Associated with Severe Human Disease or with Potential to Cause Severe Human Disease, and Use of Antiviral Medications for Post-exposure Prophylaxis](#)