



July 2018

Michigan Local Health Departments: Action Steps when a Pig Tests Positive for Influenza at the Fair

Note: MDHHS has developed resources to assist in the event of a swine variant influenza outbreak or exposure at an agricultural fair/swine exhibit. These resources can be found at both the CD Info website (www.michigan.gov/cdinfo under Influenza) and the Emerging Diseases website (www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases under Agricultural Exhibits & Events).

Michigan local health departments will typically be notified by MDHHS of a pig that tests positive for swine influenza at your county fair. If you are notified by another agency, please call MDHHS immediately at 517-335-8165 and ask to speak directly to an Epidemiologist about swine influenza. If after hours/weekend, call the MDHHS On-Call staff at 517-335-9030.

The following are steps that local health departments should be prepared to take next:

- Notify the Fair Manager: _____
- Share with Fair Manager the NASPHV/NASAHO publication “Minimizing Influenza Transmission during Exhibitions-Checklist for Protecting Guests, Exhibitors, and Pigs” (<http://www.nasphv.org/Documents/ProtectingGuestsExhibitorsAndPigsAtSwineExhibitions2018.pdf>)
- Obtain contact information and establish a means of communication (cell phone, email, etc) with the Fair Veterinarian and Swine Superintendent/4-H/Future Farmers of America (FFA) Leader.
- Ask 4-H/FFA Adult Leaders to gather contact information for families/youth exhibiting swine to share with the health department. Establish means of regular communication (cell phone, email, etc).
- For families/youth exhibiting swine, develop health monitoring protocol. Work with your MDHHS Regional Epidemiologist to implement the survey and track responses.
- Finalize swine influenza fact sheets to distribute to youth and adults.
- Prepare message for group email to swine exhibitors that will include fact sheet and health monitoring information including link to questionnaire.

- Prepare to facilitate the collection of respiratory specimens from any animal exhibitors or fair visitors reporting influenza-like illness (ILI) within 10 days of exposure to ill swine.
- Develop press release in coordination with MDHHS to notify the public.
- Notify healthcare providers that swine influenza has been detected in pigs on exhibit. Request that providers ask patients presenting with ILI about exposure to swine. Provide information about how to collect and submit respiratory specimens to MDHHS for testing.
- Be prepared to work with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) Animal Industry Division staff, Fair Veterinarian, and Fair Officials responsible for quarantining ill and exposed swine, to provide guidance about protecting people caring for quarantined animals.
 - Persons at high risk for influenza complications should avoid exposure to swine.
 - If exposure to swine cannot be avoided, consider wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pdf/swineflu/prevent-spread-flu-pigs-at-fairs.pdf>).
- Prepare informational letter to transporter and/or processing plant receiving live, exposed pigs at the conclusion of the fair.
- After the outbreak, organize a meeting with animal health, public health, exhibition organizers, and youth 4-H/FFA leaders to discuss challenges and lessons learned.

Planning for the Next Fair Season:

- Get to know the appropriate contacts at your fair.
- Volunteer to be involved in the fair planning process for the following year: (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/fair_and_exhibition_animal_health_planning_guide).
- Consider having a health department booth at the fair.
- Make sure that the fair has a comprehensive list of all animal exhibitors contact information (compiled by 4-H or FFA) before the start of the fair.

This guidance should be considered interim and may change as situations warrant