

## LABORATORY BULLETIN

2009 – April - 29

Bulletin # 2009– 5

To: Province of Alberta Emergency Medicine Departments & Physicians  
Province of Alberta Primary Care Physicians

Cc: CMOH and MOHs

Re: Notification of Enhanced Outbreak Investigation

**PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE**

To provide the most efficient response to the swine flu outbreak as well as the associated surge of respiratory specimens, ProvLab is making temporary adjustments in respiratory testing algorithms. For swine flu investigation (travel-related / contacts) of respiratory specimens, evaluation by advanced molecular methods will be the first line testing in order to rule in/out H1N1 influenza A as soon as possible. Direct Fluorescent Antibody (**DFA**) testing will be suspended in the meantime unless clinically indicated and discussed with the virologist or microbiologist within ProvLab.

Non-epidemic (routine) respiratory virus investigation specimens will be evaluated by established laboratory protocols that include DFA testing.

If questions or concerns arise, please do not hesitate to contact the laboratory for clarification.

Microbiologist/Virologist-on-Call:

Edmonton Site – Phone:  
780 407 8822 (UAH Switchboard) or  
780 407 7121 (Laboratory) (ask for MOC/VOC)

Calgary Site – Phone:  
403 944 1200 (ask for MOC/VOC)