

# Infection control for patients with suspected or confirmed infection with a novel influenza A virus

This guidance provides recommendations for infection prevention and control in health care settings for patients who may be infected with a novel influenza A virus (e.g., avian influenza). These recommendations will help prevent transmission to health care personnel, other patients, and visitors. Patients who may be infected with a novel influenza A virus include confirmed cases, probable cases, and suspected cases/cases under investigation.

## Recommendations for patient placement:

- Patient should wear a mask, if able.
- Limit patient movement within the facility.
- Place patient in an airborne infection isolation room (AIIR).
- If your facility does not have an AIIR, place the patient in an examination room with the door closed. If the patient needs further care/observation, the patient should be transferred to a facility that has an AIIR.



If you have a patient presenting with a suspected or confirmed novel influenza A virus infection, immediately contact the local health department or the NC Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Communicable Disease Branch Epi-On-Call available 24/7 at 919-733-3419.

## Recommendations for health care personnel (HCP):

### PPE for HCP:



Gown



Fit-tested N95 or higher  
(NIOSH approved, disposable preferred)



Gloves



Goggles or  
Face Shield



- Only essential personnel should enter the patient's room. Keep track of all employees that enter.
- Practice contact and airborne precautions in addition to using eye protection.
- Always adhere to standard precautions and practice good hand hygiene.
- Use caution when performing aerosol-generated procedures.

**For more information, please visit:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/bird-flu/hcp/novel-flu-infection-control/>

