

H5N1 Influenza A Rule Out Testing

Notification Date: 1/30/2025

Effective Date: 2/3/2025

Per the directive of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Ohio Department of Health, and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services:

- To help identify possible cases of Influenza A subtype H5N1 (also known as Avian Influenza), the lab is now automatically performing Influenza A subtyping on specimens from hospitalized patients who test positive for Influenza A. This ensures timely detection of severe infections and supports infection control efforts during this active flu season.
- If subtyping cannot confirm a common strain (e.g., AH1, AH3, AH1-2009), the specimen will be forwarded to state health departments for further testing, and Hospital Infection Prevention and Control will be notified.

