

Swine Flu

What is Swine Flu?

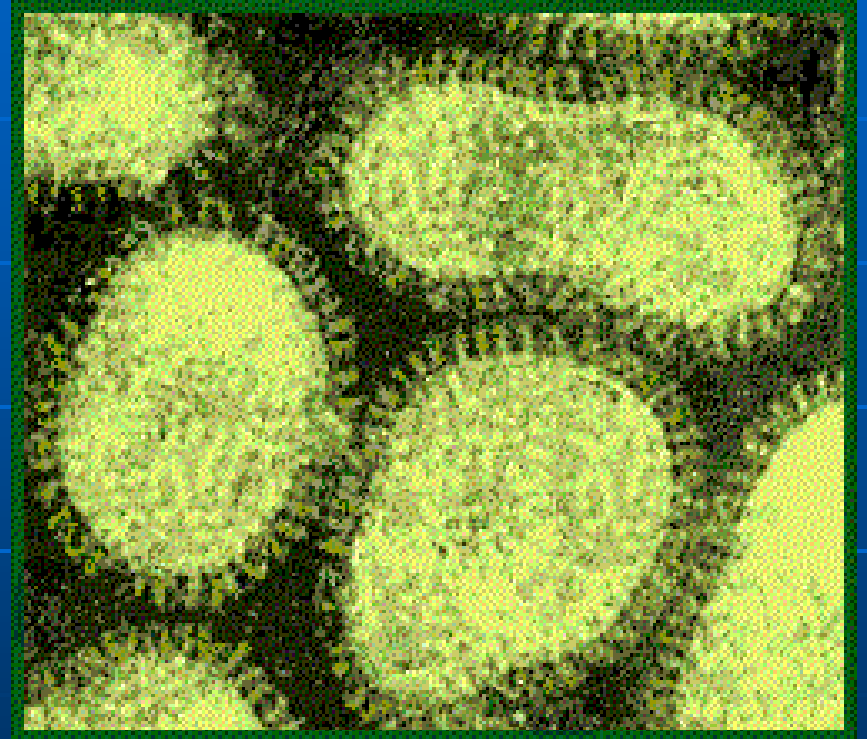
- Swine Influenza (swine flu) is a respiratory disease of pigs caused by type A influenza virus that regularly causes outbreaks in pigs.
- The classic swine flu virus type A H1N1 virus was first isolated from a pig in 1930.

Swine Flu in Pigs

- Swine flu causes high levels of illness and low death rates in pigs.
- Swine flu outbreaks are common, especially during winter months similar to outbreaks in humans.
- In the U.S. 30%-50% of pigs have been infected with swine flu.

Emergence of New Viruses

- Like all influenza viruses, swine flu viruses change constantly. Pigs can be infected by avian influenza and human influenza as well as swine influenza.
- Viruses from different species can swap genes and form new viruses.



Swine Flu Spread Among Pigs

- Swine flu viruses spread through close contact with infected pigs and contaminated objects between infected and uninfected pigs.
- Vaccinated herds may still have a sporadic disease or show mild symptoms

Symptoms of Swine Flu in Pigs

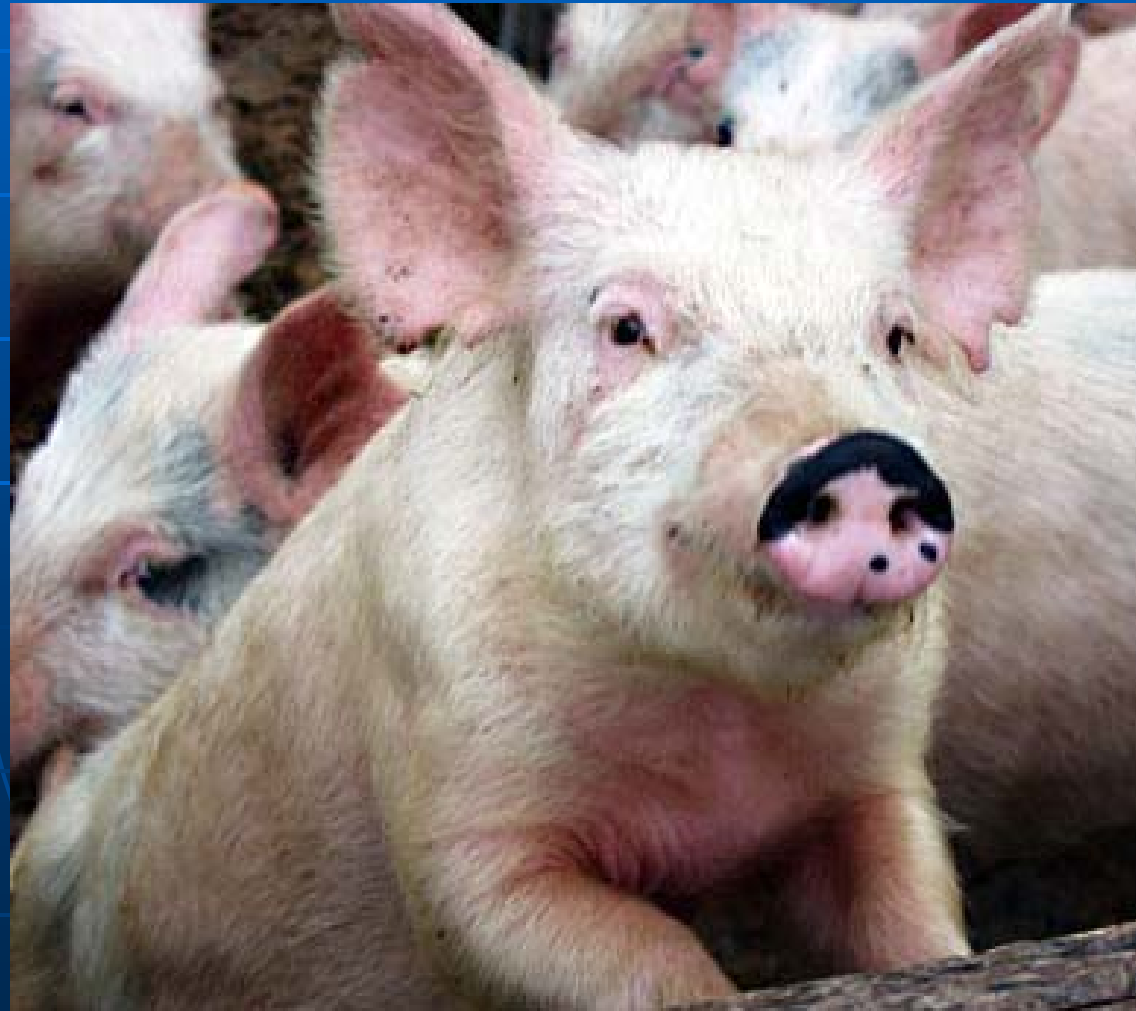
- Fever
- Coughing (barking)
- Discharge from nose/eyes
- Sneezing
- Breathing difficulties
- Going off feed
- Eye redness or inflammation
- Depression



Swine Flu in Humans

- Swine flu viruses do not normally infect humans, however there have been documented cases of swine flu in humans
- Swine flu in humans commonly occur among persons who have direct exposure to pigs. Documented cases of person to person swine flu have occurred.

Pigs harbor influenza viruses that
can be passed to humans



Eating Pork and Swine Flu

- Swine Flu viruses are not transmitted by food. You cannot get swine flu from eating pork or pork products.
- Eating properly handled cooked pork and pork products is safe.
- Cooking pork to an internal temperature of 160°F kills the swine flu virus as it does other bacteria and viruses.

Symptoms of Swine Flu in Humans

- Fever
 - Lethargy
 - Lack of appetite
 - Coughing
 - Runny nose
 - Sore throat
 - Nausea
 - Vomitting
- Diarrhea



Tips to Prevent Swine Flu

- Wash your hands with soap and water, if neither is available use alcohol based sanitizer.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Contact Your Physician If:

- You have come in close contact with pigs and experiencing flu-like symptoms
- You have been in contact with someone with confirmed swine flu
- Or were in one of the U.S. states that have reported swine flu cases or Mexico and are experiencing flu like symptoms

References

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>