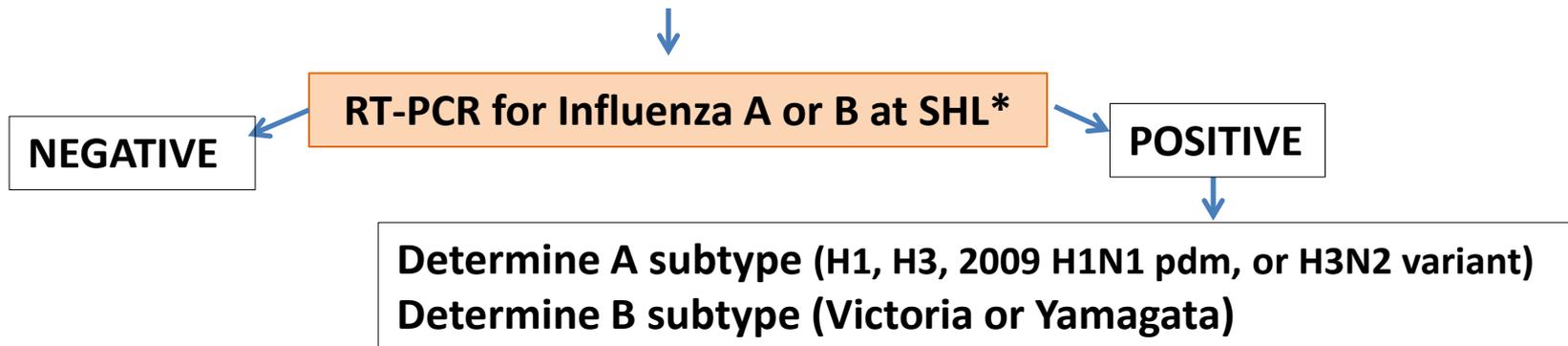


State Hygienic Laboratory and Iowa Department of Public Health Influenza Surveillance Testing Algorithm 2015/2016

Patients must have **influenza-like illness (*fever and respiratory symptoms without other apparent cause*)**.
Contact IDPH or SHL for guidance in the event of an ILI outbreak.

- **Labs:** Submit rapid antigen test positive specimens until one test is confirmed by RT-PCR*
- **Hospitals:** Submit specimens hospitalized patients with Influenza-Like Illness and without other apparent cause
- **ILINet Sentinel Providers:** Submit specimens on patients with ILI per IDPH guidelines

Preferred specimen types are a nasopharyngeal swab *OR* a combined nasal plus throat swab (2 swabs in one transport medium tube)



***SHL confirmatory influenza testing serves the following purposes:**

- 1) Demonstrates influenza virus presence when prevalence is low and when the positive predictive value of rapid tests is low. Demonstrates regions in Iowa where influenza virus is circulating.
- 2) Identification of the types and strains of influenza circulating in communities for treatment considerations and next season's vaccine. Allows for characterization of new or antigenic variant viruses and match to current vaccine.

Surveillance testing is provided at no cost and is partially supported by a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. **Thank you for your support of this program.**

NOTE: This algorithm is subject to change based on the public health needs as the influenza season progresses.

IDPH 800-362-2736 <http://www.idph.state.ia.us/Cade/influenza.aspx> **SHL 319-335-4500** <http://www.shl.uiowa.edu/services/influenza/>