

INFORMATION REGARDING SWINE FLU Influenza AH1N1

Symptoms of swine-flu

* The common symptoms of swine flu are: **abrupt onset of fever (greater than 38°C) plus two or more** of the following:

- * sore throat
 - diarrhoea or vomiting
 - cough and/or runny nose
 - headache
 - feeling very tired or listless
 - muscle aches and pains

MPD patients may be more at risk of complications in particular if they are taking hydroxyurea/hydroxycarbamide/HU any formulation of interferon or drugs such as busulphan, pipobroman, prednisolone or radioactive phosphorous. Anagrelide or Xagrid treatment probably does NOT increase the risk of complications nor does having an MPD in itself.

The following advice applies:

If patients have flu-like symptoms they should call their GP to arrange for treatment.

Currently we would consider anti-flu drugs such as tamiflu after prolonged close contact with someone with flu-like symptoms (it is not necessary for that person to have been tested for swine flu) -probably this means **being within a metre of someone with flu symptoms for at least an hour**

More information or advice is available from:
NHS Direct (www.nhs.uk or 08454647)
Swine flu information helpline: 0800 1 513 513