

Additional advice for Open Farms and Herds

Herds open to the public

- Influenza can be spread by direct contact between infected pigs, fomite spread (mechanical spread of virus by people, vehicles and equipment) and aerosol spread over short distances.
- Try to keep pigs 3 metres from the public so that the risk of spread from visitors is reduced
- Influenza viruses are transmitted by the spread of respiratory secretions, mostly via direct contact or short distance aerosol spread. Aerosols from humans such as sneezing typically travel for 1-2 metres
- Anyone with clinical signs of influenza, or who is in close contact with someone with influenza, should avoid contact with pigs this includes vets and other visitors.
- Consider asking visitors who have recently had flu or are in contact with someone who has flu not to visit the farm
- The Health Protection Agency has a leaflet for Open Farms

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/ais23.pdf>

Control movement of pigs onto the farm

- Follow all the standard precautions for moving pigs onto your farm - keep new pigs separated from the resident herd for at least 10 days (to monitor for signs of influenza) consider testing pigs for influenza prior to mixing with main herd
- If your pigs have been to a show impose a voluntary movement ban of at least 10 days on the whole herd to allow any clinical signs of influenza to develop, even if you have a show quarantine and are exempt from the compulsory 20 day standstill.
- If you hire out boars or bring in sows for breeding impose a voluntary movement ban on the whole herd of at least 10 days to allow any clinical signs of influenza to develop, even if you have a breeding quarantine and are exempt from the compulsory 20 day standstill.
- Be vigilant for signs of disease and seek professional advice if clinical signs of influenza are seen.

The full 12 page Influenza in Pigs: Code of Practice is available on industry and government websites.