INFLUENZA IN CRITICAL CARE

NHS Tayside

Influenza A/B PCR positive on Point of Care Test

No

E-mail virology
(Tay.virology@nhs.scot)
request full viral screen
on PoC swab
Manage as CAP

Yes

Isolate patient
Baseline tests – **Box 1**
Antivirals – **Box 2**
Antibacterials – **Box 3**
CT thorax if feasible

Seek ID and Respiratory advice early:
Tay.id@nhs.scot (page 5075)
Tay.respiratory@nhs.scot (page 4988)

If oseltamivir used consider antiviral switch to IV zanamivir (**Box 2**) if poor response after 5 days

Repeat baseline tests at day 7 – **Box 1**

Consider adding antifungal (**Box 4**) if:
1) Fungal tracheobronchitis at bronchoscopy
2) CT signs suggestive of invasive aspergillosis**
3) Risk factor for invasive aspergillosis***
4) Positive tests:
   a) Positive galactomannan **OR**
   b) *Aspergillus spp.* in BAL **OR**
   c) BAL *Aspergillus spp.* PCR positive
5) Refractory respiratory failure despite Rx

DISCUSS ALL CASES WITH ID / RESPIRATORY

****Suggestive CT signs**
Nodules with surrounding ground glass ("halo" sign)
Cavitating lesions
Most patients have non-specific changes or ARDS

*****Risk Factors**
Neutropenia
Chemotherapy
Immunodeficiency
Steroid use
Severe COPD

Suspected influenza associated aspergillosis

1) Baseline tests (days 0,7)
Blood cultures
Blood galactomannan
Sputum culture (incl. fungi)
Bronchoscopy if intubated*

***Bronchoscopy & BAL for:**
Culture (incl. fungi)
Galactomannan on BAL
Aspergillus PCR on BAL

2) Antivirals:
Oseltamivir – oral or NG
Zanamivir IV (needs ID/Micro approval)
– consider if:
1) National guidance issued for use in particular groups
2) Failure to improve with oseltamivir
Duration of Rx – 5-10 days

3) Antibacterials:
As per severe CAP
Consider adding IV clindamycin 1.2g QDS (or linezolid 600mg BD) if cavitating pneumonia

4) Antifungals:
Voriconazole 6mg/kg BD IV for 2 doses then 4mg/kg BD (or AmBisome 3mg/kg OD)
If started **must** be reviewed by ID / Respiratory

Dr N Rae, Consultant ID Physician (on behalf of ID/Resp/ICU) v2 Nov 2021. Updated April 2024. Review Nov 2025.