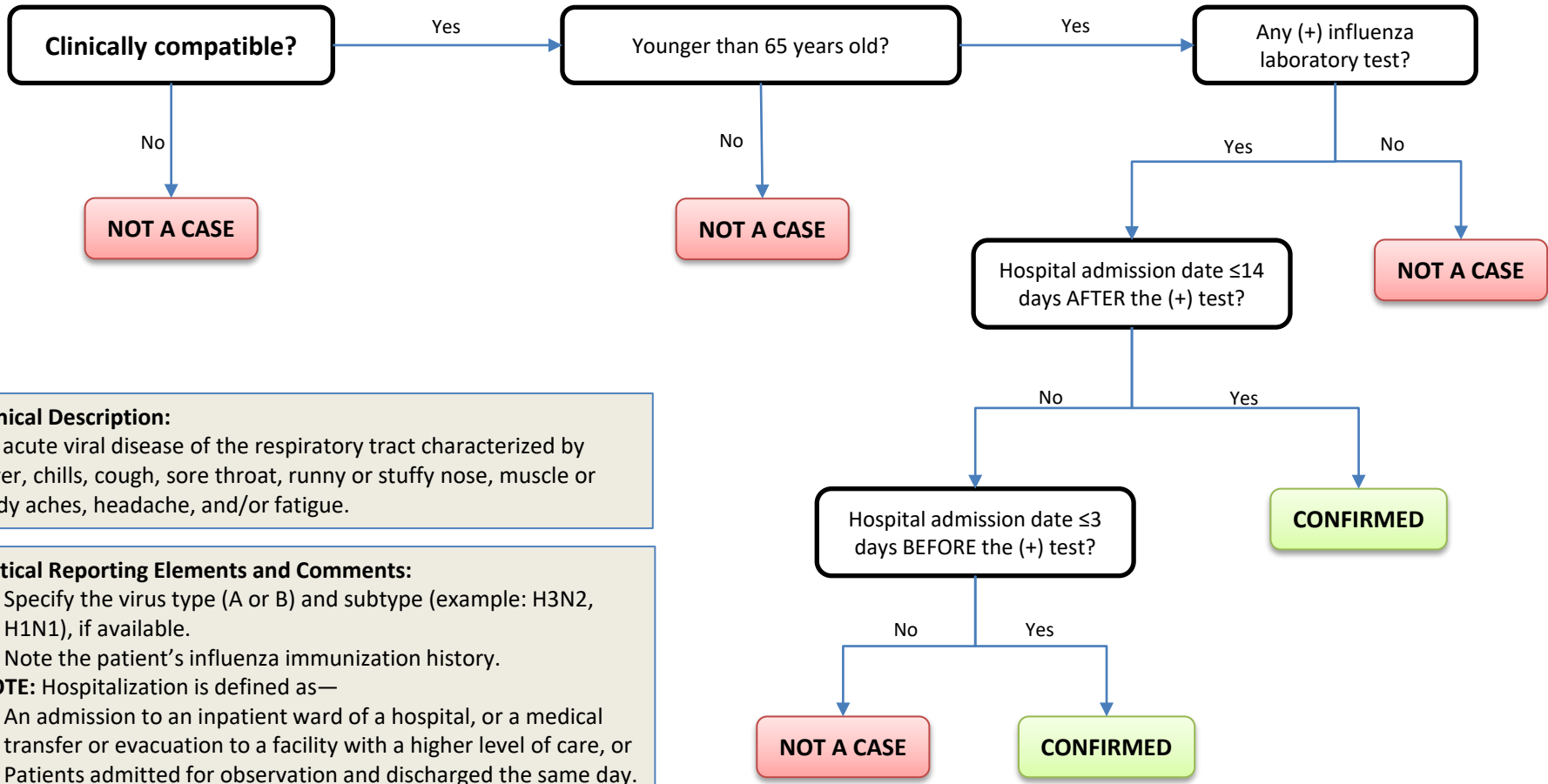


# Influenza-Associated Hospitalization

COMMON NAME: Seasonal flu

INCLUDES: People younger than 65 years of age who are admitted to the hospital because of influenza.

EXCLUDES: Non-hospitalized influenza cases and *Haemophilus influenzae* (see flowchart for *H. influenzae*).



**Clinical Description:**  
 An acute viral disease of the respiratory tract characterized by fever, chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headache, and/or fatigue.

**Critical Reporting Elements and Comments:**

- Specify the virus type (A or B) and subtype (example: H3N2, H1N1), if available.
- Note the patient’s influenza immunization history.

**NOTE:** Hospitalization is defined as—

- An admission to an inpatient ward of a hospital, or a medical transfer or evacuation to a facility with a higher level of care, or
- Patients admitted for observation and discharged the same day. An overnight stay is not required. ER or outpatient clinic visits that do not result in hospital admission are **not** considered hospitalizations.

Co-infections with other organisms, such as SARS-CoV-2, should be reported separately as individual RMEs.