



Weekly Status Report: Pandemic H1N1 Influenza Information for Community Partners

Date 4 Nov 09	Time: 11:00	Pandemic Level: 6
<p style="text-align: center;">HIGHLIGHTS</p> <p>The Northwestern Health Unit is currently providing the H1N1 vaccine only to community members who are in the high priority group. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People 65 and under with chronic health conditions - Healthy children 6 months to 5 years of age - People living in remote or isolated communities - Health care workers - Household contacts and care providers of persons who are at high risk and cannot be immunized <p>For information about clinics in your area, check our website: www.nwhu.on.ca or call toll-free 1-866-468-2240.</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">H1N1 ACTIVITY LEVEL</p> <p>Ontario: Most Ontario health units are reporting sporadic to localized activity. 5 Health Units are reporting widespread activity. Influenza activity is higher compared to the previous week.</p> <p>NWHU: There is currently increased sporadic H1N1 activity in our catchment area.</p> <p>Activity Level Definitions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) No activity: no lab confirmed cases 2) Sporadic activity: sporadically occurring confirmed cases, no outbreaks 3) Localized activity: sporadically occurring confirmed cases, no outbreaks in schools, workplaces or residential homes (in less than 50% of the region) 4) Widespread activity: sporadically occurring confirmed cases, with outbreaks in schools, workplaces, or residential facilities (in more than 50% of the region) <p>Activity levels are assigned based on lab confirmations, influenza-like-illness reports from various sources, and lab confirmed institutional outbreaks.</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">SCHOOLS/CHILD CARE FACILITIES</p> <p>The Public Health Agency of Canada has issued advice to schools and daycares indicating that they should remain open. Sick children, teachers and caregivers should stay home.</p> <p>Schools/Child Care Facilities: The MOHLTC Guidelines for the Prevention and Management of pH1N1 2009 in Elementary and Secondary Schools are available at: http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/ccom/flu/h1n1/pro/docs/school_guidelines_20090828.pdf</p> <p>Post Secondary and Boarding Schools: Public Health Guidance for Post Secondary and Boarding Schools re: the Prevention and Management of Influenza Like Illness, including H1N1 virus, can be found on the PHAC website at: http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/alert-alerte/h1n1/hp-ps/psili-eng.php</p>		

REPORTING

Schools and daycares should be reporting to us when their illness-related absenteeism exceeds 10%.

TRAVEL

PHAC advises Canadians not to travel while ill. Canadians are advised to visit the PHAC website for more info: www.fightflu.ca

PHAC Guidance: Prevention and management of cases of ILI that may be due to pandemic H1N1 2009 influenza virus on cruise ships.

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/alert-alerte/h1n1/hp-ps/cs-pc-eng.php>

MORE INFORMATION

<http://www.nwhu.on.ca>

<http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/ccom/flu/default.aspx>

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/index-eng.php>

<http://www.who.int/en/>