



Fall Forum 2020 Questions and Answers October 21, 2020

Can we have access to the slideshow for documentation?

PowerPoint will be available on our [Long Term Care Facilities](#) web page.

Did not receive quick reference guide with vaccines

Reference materials including the quick reference guide will be mailed to each facility in the near future.

Update from PHO

Public Health Ontario is providing a series of 4/5 sessions starting on October 29th – about one a week focussing on best practices and resources.

PHO will cover a couple of topics at each session, so you can choose which sessions work best for you.

You will need to register via the email link that is going out shortly.

Videos very helpful

We encourage you to share these to your frontline staff.

Survey and feedback

Survey will be sent with the resource packages.

Are there changes to community flu clinics?

No direct changes to community clinics. Recognition that LTC are under more restrictions and we ask that you do what is most appropriate to your facility.

Current influenza cases in the Region

We have had no lab confirmed cases on influenza in the Region or Provincially.

We have seen Rhinovirus here in the Region and to date we have had 3 homes with URT OB already.

We have learned that in Australia – as they are typically a good indicator of what will happen here locally – they experienced a mild influenza season this year, very few cases and minimal impact on the LTC/health care system.

It has been hypothesized that there were fewer cases of the flu because of the existing COVID precautions in place and high demand of the flu vaccine.

When we do have flu cases to report, we will send an advisory to all LTC/RHs.

Can a staff member who chooses not to get a flu vaccine work during a flu outbreak?

It is recommended that all staff receive the flu vaccine. Unvaccinated staff should not work in a unit with an influenza outbreak, unless they are taking Tamiflu. Public Health recommends having an order of Tamiflu ready with their doctor, even if they are planning to get vaccinated.

How long do staff need to take Tamiflu during an outbreak?

Staff will need to take Tamiflu for the duration of the outbreak.

If we are working with a pharmacy for flu vaccine, are they responsible for the order to administer?

The pharmacy is able to administer vaccine without an order.

If a pharmacy administers the influenza vaccine to residents, are they responsible for the consent?

Work with the pharmacy to determine who will be responsible for the consent forms. Likely the facility will be responsible for obtaining consent for the pharmacy to administer the vaccine.