

Respiratory Investigation, Suspect Outbreak and Outbreak Checklist

Screening and Reporting

- Complete twice daily screening of staff and residents
- Send staff reporting illness on screening home immediately. If staff become ill during shift, send home immediately
- Isolate ill residents and asymptomatic contacts of ill residents using droplet and contact precautions immediately
 - Ensure isolation rooms are marked
 - Ensure PPE available outside/near isolation rooms
- Start line list for ill residents and ill staff
- Report illnesses to Public Health immediately. Call 519-575-4400 x5506 during business hours. After hours call 519-575-4400 and ask for the manager on call.
- Consult Public Health regarding collection of NP swabs and to obtain outbreak #:
 - Will advise if COVID test only, or if testing for Flu and other respiratory viruses is recommended by rapid test and MRVP (multiplex respiratory virus PCR)
 - Ensure collection kits are not expired
 - Ensure current facility outbreak # is on requisition
 - Label NP swabs with 2 identifiers (name and date of birth)
 - Ensure resident name on vial matches name on requisition
 - Arrange swab pick-up with Public Health, call 519-575-4400 ext. 5506
 - Refrigerate swabs and mark 'for Public Health pick-up'
- Increase frequency of environmental cleaning, especially high-touch surfaces
- Notify facility/private pharmacy of NP swab testing in case of confirmed influenza (Oct-May)

Definitions of investigation, suspect outbreak or confirmed outbreak

- Does the current activity meet the investigation, suspect or confirmed outbreak definition?
 - Investigation (COVID-19)
 - One resident or staff person with one or more symptom of illness compatible with COVID list of symptoms
 - Suspect respiratory outbreak:
 - Two residents with respiratory symptoms on one unit, or
 - More than one unit having a resident with respiratory symptoms, or
 - One lab-confirmed case of influenza
 - One lab-confirmed case of COVID-19 in staff person who is asymptomatic, or an indeterminate COVID-19 result awaiting re-test
 - Confirmed outbreak:

- Three residents with respiratory symptoms on one unit, or
- More than two units having a resident with respiratory symptoms, or
- Two residents with respiratory symptoms, One is lab-confirmed influenza
- One lab confirmed COVID-19 in symptomatic staff person or in asymptomatic or symptomatic resident

Confirmed Outbreak (Declared) actions

- Place outbreak signage at all facility entrances
- Notify appropriate individuals of outbreak, as per facility policy
- Consider forming an Outbreak Management team
- Consult Public Health regarding upcoming services and special events
- Ensure a contact person has been assigned to communicate with Public Health daily
- Arrange daily communication with Public Health
- Review lab results with Public Health

Influenza Outbreak (in addition to above section for Declared Outbreaks)

- Contact facility/private pharmacy and arrange delivery of antivirals for residents, same day if possible
- Obtain doctor's orders for antivirals ASAP for residents with own doctor:
 - Lab confirmed influenza case: treatment dose x five days
 - Symptomatic residents (not lab-confirmed): treatment dose x five days, and prophylactic dose for remainder of outbreak (recommend 14 day order)
 - Asymptomatic residents: prophylactic dose for duration of outbreak (recommend 14 day order). May consider obtaining order for treatment dose in case resident becomes symptomatic
- Staff antivirals:
 - Asymptomatic staff who did not receive seasonal flu shot: prophylactic dose for duration of outbreak (recommend 14 day order)
 - Asymptomatic staff who received flu shot <14 days ago: prophylactic dose until 14 days since flu shot received
 - Asymptomatic staff who received flu shot >14 days ago: no antiviral needed

Outbreak Declared Over

- Outbreak Over letter received from Public Health
- Once outbreak declared over, discontinue antivirals (influenza outbreaks only)
- Notify appropriate individuals that outbreak has been declared over, as per facility policy
- Send Outbreak Summary Report to Public Health (influenza outbreaks only)