



Huron County Health Unit

Novel H1N1 Influenza Pandemic (pH1N1)

Weekly Information Bulletin

For more information: www.huroncounty.ca/health

December 11, 2009

IMPORTANT MESSAGES

- All measures indicate that influenza activity continue to decline in Huron County for the fourth consecutive week
- Recent **Important Health Notices (IHNs)** issued by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (these can be found on the health unit website):
 - Frequently asked questions on Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 for Health Care Providers (November 20, 2009)
 - Information for health care providers- pH1N1 update (November 13, 2009)
 - Information for all Ontario healthcare providers regarding access to infection control supplies and equipment from the provincial stockpile. (November 12, 2009)
 - Information for family physicians regarding remuneration and other supports available to address a surge in demand for services as a result of the Pandemic H1N1 2009 influenza virus (November 2, 2009)
- An **on-line Influenza Self-Assessment Tool** has been developed by the MOHLTC to help Ontarians decide what to do when they think they may have the flu. It can be found on the health unit website
- **Guidelines for the management and treatment of patients** in the different healthcare settings during the pandemic, were released by the MOHLTC and can be found on the health unit website
- Guidance document for pharmacies and pharmacists on Ontario's **Antiviral distribution strategy** for managing influenza like illness during Pandemic (H1N1) 2009, was released by the MOHLTC and can be found on the health unit website
- Guidance for the **Prevention and Management of Influenza-Like Illness in Child Care Settings** during the Pandemic (H1N1) 2009, was released by the MOHTC and can be found on the health unit website
- Guidance for the **Management of Influenza-Like-Illness for Pre-Hospital Care Settings** during Pandemic (H1N1) 2009, was released by the MOHLTC and can be found on the health unit website

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- Additional Guidance documents from the MOHLTC can be found on the health unit website

HURON COUNTY

As of December 11, 2009:

<i>Time Period</i>	Influenza A				<i>Total</i>
	<i>pH1N1</i>	<i>Other subtypes/not sub typed</i>	<i>Influenza B</i>	<i>Influenza A&B</i>	
Sept 1, 2009– Dec 11, 2009	25	27	0	0	52
Sept 1, 2008- Aug 31, 2009	2	16	35	0	53

As of December 5, 2009 (week 48):

- No new influenza A cases for the reporting period
- No new institutional respiratory outbreaks for the reporting period
- The rate of ILI visits to hospital emergency departments decreased from 5.4% to 4.2%
- Average daily all-cause absenteeism in schools was 5.7% and similar to the previous week
- The rate of ILI visits to sentinel physician decreased significantly from 45.5 to 9.7 per 1000 patient visits

ONTARIO

As of December 5, 2009 (week 48):

- 8,633 confirmed pH1N1 across Ontario since the start of the pandemic (52.6% in wave two)
- 1,725 confirmed cases hospitalized and 113 deaths as of December 9, 2009 giving a hospitalization rate of 13.34 per 100,000 and a mortality rate of 0.87 per 100,000 population. 78% (88) of deaths and 78% (1,340) of hospitalization occurred in wave 2 of the pandemic.
- There was 1 new institutional respiratory outbreak for the reporting period. No organism was identified
- 4 health units reported localized influenza activity and 20 reported sporadic influenza activity
- The overall ILI consultation rate decreased from 40.36 to 22.27 per 1000 patient visits

CANADA

As of December 5, 2009 (week 48):

- Nationally, the activity levels reported for this week continued to decrease compared to the previous week
- All FluWatch indicators declined for the third consecutive week

- The intensity of the Pandemic (H1N1) in the population was moderate. A decline has been experienced by all provinces and territories
- The pH1N1 strain accounted for nearly 100% (99.8%) of the positive influenza A sub-typed specimens
- 8,102 confirmed cases hospitalized and 369 deaths since the start of the pandemic.
- National ILI consultation rate decreased significantly from 37 to 18 per 1000 patient visits and within expected range for this time of year

GLOBALLY

- **WHO:** (As of December 6) In the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere, pandemic influenza activity has passed its peak in North America and in parts of western, northern, and eastern Europe, but activity continues to increase in parts of central and southeastern Europe, as well as in south and east Asia. Influenza transmission remains active in much of western and central Asia and there is evidence of pandemic virus circulation in most regions of Africa. Pandemic (H1N1) isolates with the D222G mutation which may play a role in receptor binding of the virus have been observed in France, Norway, Brazil, China, Japan, Mexico, Ukraine, US, and Finland. 102 cases of oseltamivir resistant pandemic H1N1 influenza viruses have been detected and characterized worldwide.
- **U.S.:** (As of December 5, 2009) 14 states reported geographically widespread influenza activity and 25 reported regional influenza activity. ILI consultation rate was 2.7%, slightly above the national baseline of 2.3%. From August 30 – December 5, 2009, there were 33,490 laboratory-confirmed influenza associated hospitalizations, 1,445 laboratory-confirmed influenza associated deaths

FURTHER INFORMATION

- Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care at: http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/ccom/flu/h1n1/pro/flu_bulletin.aspx
- Public Health Agency of Canada at: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/