



# Huron County Health Unit

## Novel H1N1 Influenza Pandemic (pH1N1)

### Weekly Information Bulletin

For more information: [www.huroncounty.ca/health](http://www.huroncounty.ca/health)

## November 20, 2009

### IMPORTANT MESSAGES

- Recent **Important Health Notices (IHNs)** issued by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (these can be found on the health unit website):
  - 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 (pH1N1). (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
- Ontario has opened its **H1N1 immunization** program to the general public

## HURON COUNTY

As of November 19, 2009:

<i>Time Period</i>	<b>Influenza A</b>				
	<i>pH1N1</i>	<i>Other subtypes/not sub typed</i>	<i>Influenza B</i>	<i>Influenza A&amp;B</i>	<i>Total</i>
Sept 1, 2009– Nov 19, 2009	19	30	0	0	49
Sept 1, 2008- Aug 31, 2009	2	16	35	0	53

As of November 14, 2009 (week 45):

- No new institutional respiratory outbreaks for the reporting period
- The rate of ILI visits to hospital emergency departments decreased from 21.4.0% to 16.4%
- Average daily all-cause absenteeism in schools decreased from 11.8% to 6.0% and was greater than 10% in only two schools
- The rate of ILI visits to sentinel physician decreased from 234.4 to 78.9 per 1000 patient visits

## ONTARIO

As of November 7, 2009 (week 44):

- 7,118 confirmed pH1N1 across Ontario since the start of the pandemic (42.5% in wave two)
- 1067 confirmed cases hospitalized and 61 deaths as of November 12, 2009; representing a population-based hospitalization rate of 8.3 per 100,000 and a population-based mortality rate of 0.47 per 100,000. Mortality due to pH1N1 increased with increasing age, with people in the 50-64 and in the 65 and older age groups accounting for the highest mortality rates.
- There were 7 new institutional respiratory outbreaks for the reporting period. 6 were due to Influenza A
- 15 health units reported widespread influenza activity and 10 reported localized influenza activity
- The overall ILI consultation rate was 134.7 per 1000 patient visits and similar to the previous week

## CANADA

As of November 7, 2009 (week 44):

- The intensity of the Pandemic (H1N1) in the population was high with 1324 hospitalizations and 35 deaths reported in one week
- The pH1N1 strain accounted for nearly 100% (99.8%) of the positive influenza A subtyped specimens
- 3,764 confirmed cases hospitalized and 135 deaths since the start of the pandemic.
- National ILI consultation rate decreased slightly from 111 to 100 per 1000 patient visits

## GLOBALLY

- **WHO:** As of November 8, 2009, globally over 500,000 confirmed cases and 6260 deaths from pH1N1 reported to the WHO. the winter influenza season which began unusually early across much of the northern hemisphere, is showing early signs of peaking in North America but is intensifying across much of Europe and Central and Eastern Asia
- **US:** As of November 7, 2009, 46 states reported geographically widespread influenza activity. Outpatient visits for influenza-like-illness was 6.3% which is above the baseline of 2.3%. From August 30 – November 7, 2009, there were 22,364 laboratory-confirmed influenza associated hospitalizations, 877 laboratory-confirmed influenza associated deaths

## FURTHER INFORMATION

- Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care at: [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/pubhealth/flu/flu\\_o8/flubul\\_mn.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/pubhealth/flu/flu_o8/flubul_mn.html)
- Public Health Agency of Canada at: [www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/)