

Influenza: Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) Reporting

Under section 38 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O. 1990*, physicians or other persons authorized to administer an immunizing agent, are required to inform the person who consents to immunization of the importance of immediately reporting to a physician or registered nurse in the extended class any reaction that may be a reportable event.

Also, under section 38 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O. 1990*, a physician, a member of the College of Nurses of Ontario or a member of the Ontario College of Pharmacists who, while providing professional services to a person, recognizes the existence of a reportable event and forms the opinion that it may be related to the administration of an immunizing agent must report the “reportable event” to the local medical officer of health (i.e. the medical officer of health of the health unit where the professional services are provided), **within seven days** after the reportable event is recognized.

A “reportable event” means:

- (a) persistent crying or screaming, anaphylaxis or anaphylactic shock occurring **within 48 hours** after the administration of an immunizing agent,
- (b) shock-like collapse, high fever or convulsions occurring **within three days** after the administration of an immunizing agent,
- (c) arthritis occurring **within 42 days** after the administration of an immunizing agent,
- (d) generalized urticaria, residual seizure disorder, encephalopathy, encephalitis or any other significant occurrence* occurring **within 15 days** after the administration of an immunizing agent, or
- (e) death occurring at any time and following upon a symptom described in clause (a), (b), (c) or (d).

To report an adverse event following immunization, please call your local health unit.

For the list of health units, please go to the following web site and click on the individual health unit:
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/phu/phuloc_mn.html

* Significant occurrences which are unexpected or unusual in severity including reactions such as oculorespiratory syndrome (ORS), Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS).