CD Unit COVID-19 Weekly Teleconference Notes

Oct 6th, 2020 10:00 EST / 09:00 CST

Dial-in: 1-877-413-4781 **Access Code:** 377 0869

COVID-19 in Ontario

- COVID-19 continues to circulate in Ontario with increased cases being reported
- All of the province is in <u>Stage 3</u> of reopening. On October 3, 2020 a pause on further reopening of businesses, facilities, and organizations has been extended for another 28 days.
- Latest COVID-19 <u>School and childcare screening guidance</u> adjusted the type and number of symptoms needed for a child to stay home for a period of time and seek medical advice.
 - o Students and children with a fever or cough are still advised to stay home until they are able to consult with a health care provider and receive an alternative diagnosis or a negative COVID-19 test.
 - o There is additional flexibility for students who are experiencing only one symptom which may be associated with other illnesses such as runny nose
 - o Abdominal pain and conjunctivitis removed as a symptom
- Additional public health and testing measures were announced October 2, 2020
 - o Ontario assessment centres will be moving to appointment-based measures October 6, 2020
 - o Walk-in testing services were discontinued October 4, 2020
 - o Mobile testing and pop-up targeted testing will continue
- Ottawa, Peel, and Toronto have targeted measures in place as a result of their higher than average rates of transmission which include:
 - o Restaurants, bars and other food and drink establishments (including nightclubs) to the number of patrons maximum of 100 patrons with no more than six patrons per table
 - o Restricting group exercise classes at gyms and other fitness settings to 10 individuals, with a maximum of 50 people per facility
 - o Meeting and event facilities have a limit of six people per table and 50 people per facility.
- A pause on social circles and advising all Ontarians to allow only close contact with people living in their own house household
 - o Individuals living alone may consider having close contact with another household

Public health measures like watching your distance, washing your hands, and wearing a face covering remain very important

- Avoid crowded places, close contact, and closed spaces
- Avoid gathering, and keep 2 m distance from those not in your social circle
- Wear a face covering (cloth mask, non-medical mask) when running essential errands where you'll be indoors
- Stay home and self-isolate if you are sick, feel unwell, or have symptoms of COVID-19
- A free app is available to inform users if they may have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus you can learn more here

Guidance Documents

The Ministry website was last updated October 1, 2020

- Guidelines for school and childcare screening (1 Oct 2020)
- COVID-19 Quick Reference for Public Health Testing and Clearance V10.0 (1 Oct 2020)
 - o Update is a change from 14-day clearance period for all cases, to a 10-day clearance period for the majority of cases with mild to moderate illness and a 20-day clearance period for cases with severe illness (requiring ICU-level support) or with immune compromise
 - o Contacts who have had a high-risk exposure to a case must self-isolate for 14 days from their last exposure.
- CoVID-19 <u>Guidance: School Outbreak Management</u> V1.0 (1 Oct 2020)

COVID-19 FNIHB-OR Epi Report

- As of October 6th, 2020, we have 80 First Nations confirmed cases and 7 non-First Nations. We currently have 13 active cases.
- Since the beginning of the pandemic, there have been 2 deaths.
- In total, 6,402 tests have been reported to FNIHB-OR.
- A grand total of 16,140 tests (including tests done in SLFNHA and WAHA areas).
- The province reported 615 cases of coronavirus on Monday October 5th, 2020. The majority of newly confirmed cases were concentrated in three public health units: 289 in Toronto, 88 in Peel, 81 in Ottawa. Other health units reporting double-digit increases were York Region-47 cases, Halton Region-26 cases, Waterloo Region-15 cases and Durham Region-10 cases.
- More than half of the cases (58%) were reported in people under 40 years old.

FNIHB CD Unit Activities

CD Unit: COVID-19 Management within Schools

- This document is based on the Ministry of Health (MOH) Operational guidance: COVID-19 management in schools and COVID-19 Guidance: School Outbreak Management
- This is not an exhaustive document and is to be used in conjunction with guidance from MOH: Management of Cases and Contacts of COVID-19 in Ontario
- Intent is to help provide public health recommendations to COVID-19 related scenarios and questions that may occur within the school

CD Unit: COVID-19 Follow-up Case & Contact Checklist

- Two separate tools (one for case follow up and one for contact follow up) created to help guide an interview with a case of COVID-19, while outlining the recommended public health steps for case and contact management
- The forms will be available on Onehealth.ca

Pandemic Plans

- As Ontario enters the second wave it is important to make sure that pandemic plans have been reviewed and updated
- Pandemic Plan Tool kit can be found on Onehealth.ca

Letter from Dr. Maher to Chiefs and Health Directors

- On Mon Oct 5th, a letter was distributed for Chiefs and Health Directors from Dr. Maher, Regional Public Health Physician for the Health Protection Unit of FNHIB-OR
- The letter highlights the increase numbers of people testing positive for COVID-19 and the importance for communities to continue to follow the basic precautions of staying home if unwell, physical distancing, hand washing, and wearing non-medical face coverings indoors or when physical distancing is not possible.
 - o Limiting the number of contacts that each of us has every day is again extremely important in limiting the spread of infection
- Included in the email is a copy of the letter sent

2020-2021 UIIP (Influenza Vaccination) Mandatory Education Season: Launched this Week!

• This webinar will review the 2020-2021 Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP) focusing on this year's influenza vaccine products and its administration, contraindication and precautions, anaphylaxis management, vaccine handling and storage and documentation

Certification Process:

Previously Certified FNIHB, Band and HCC Nurses
Must attend one of the 2020-2021 Seasonal Influenza Webinars listed below
After attending a UIIP Mandatory Education Session, nurses can then offer the Influenza immunization to clients in accordance with the Medical Directive: Authority to Provide Influenza Immunizations by Band Employed Registered Nurses and Registered Practical Nurses Working in First Nation Communities in Ontario Region
 September 29th, 2020 at 11:00 – 12:00 EST October 1st, 2020 at 11:00 – 12:00 EST October 6th, 2020 at 10:30 – 11:30 EST October 7th, 2020 at 13:30 – 14:30 EST October 14th, 2020 at 09:30 - 10:30 EST
Registration: https://gts-ee.webex.com/gts-ee/onstage/g.php?PRID=6d5797391840bf22884bc8 4cca534f60 Dial in number: 1-877-413-4781 Conference ID: 377 0869

 For further details related to the 2020-2021 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Mandatory Education, please see the email send from the CD Team on Fri Sept 25th

Contact

General inquiry email set up for community leadership

• COVID19 General Inquiry Email: sac.covid-19fnihbontario.isc@canada.ca

Next teleconference:

Tuesday Oct 13th at 10:00 EST / 09:00 CST

Dial-in 1-877-413-4781 Conference ID: 377 0869

