

6A. Public Health Measures Tools

Contents

1. Public Health Measures by Level and by Pandemic Period and Phase

Public Health Measures by Level and by Pandemic Period and Phase

WHO Pandemic/ Phase	Federal Level	Provincial Level	Local Level
<p>Interpandemic Period: Phase 1</p> <p>No new influenza virus subtypes have been detected in humans</p> <p>Goal: To promote personal protective measures that reduce the risk of acquiring seasonal influenza.</p>	<p>Promote practices that reduce the risk of acquiring influenza (e.g., hand hygiene, staying home when ill, covering your cough).</p>	<p>Promote practices that reduce the risk of acquiring influenza (e.g., hand hygiene, staying home when ill, covering your cough) and development of education materials for the general public and health care workers regarding reducing one's chances of acquiring influenza.</p> <p>Develop and disseminate surveillance/infection control practices related to influenza (e.g. FRI guidelines).</p>	<p>Promote/disseminate practices that reduce the risk of acquiring influenza (e.g., hand hygiene, staying home when ill, covering your cough) and disseminate education materials for the general public and health care workers regarding reducing one's chances of acquiring influenza.</p> <p>Anticipate unique needs of own community (e.g. translation requirements) and target seasonal influenza information for various stakeholders (e.g. schools, day-care, community groups).</p> <p>Follow routine (interpandemic) protocols for follow up of confirmed/suspect influenza cases and their contacts and respiratory infection outbreak management.</p>
<p>Interpandemic Period: Phase 2</p> <p>A circulating animal influenza virus subtype poses a substantial risk of human disease.</p> <p>Goal: To develop PHMs (and communication materials related to PHMs) to be used during pandemic alert and pandemic periods.</p>	<p>Continue Phase 1 activities.</p> <p>Development of national recommendations on PHMs to be implemented during a pandemic (including individual and community-based measures).</p> <p>Develop a consistent public health response to be used nationally in the event of a pandemic.</p>	<p>Continue Phase 1 activities.</p> <p>Assist with development of national recommendations on PHMs to be implemented during a pandemic.</p> <p>Develop provincial recommendations on PHMs to be implemented in Ontario in the event of a pandemic (including individual and community-based measures).</p> <p>Identify research opportunities (e.g., methods to evaluate effectiveness of PHMs).</p> <p>Develop education materials about public health measures that may be used during a pandemic (e.g., self isolation, school closures and social distancing) and general information regarding risk reduction to introduce pandemic concepts to the general public.</p> <p>Develop and disseminate information about personal protective measures to be used by cases and their contacts (e.g. hand and respiratory hygiene).</p>	<p>Continue Phase 1 activities.</p> <p>COMMUNITY MEASURES</p> <p>Assist in the development, adopt and disseminate provincial recommendations on PHMs to be implemented during a pandemic</p> <p>Anticipate unique needs of own community (e.g. translation requirements) and target pandemic information for various stakeholders (e.g. schools, day-care, community groups).</p> <p>Adopt education materials about public health measures that may be used during a pandemic (e.g., self isolation, school closures and social distancing) general information regarding risk reduction to introduce pandemic concepts to the general public.</p> <p>Adopt information about personal protective measures to be used by cases and their contacts.</p>
<p>Pandemic Alert Period: Phase 3</p> <p>Human infection(s) with a new subtype, but no human-to-human spread or spread to a close contact only.</p> <p>Goal: To mitigate the effects of a novel strain, should one be detected in Ontario.</p>	<p>Continue Phase 2 activities.</p> <p>Review epidemiology of novel strain and revise national PHMs accordingly.</p> <p>Review need for and disseminate travel alert advisories as appropriate.</p> <p>Collaborate with P/Ts to develop strategies to notify health authorities about arrival of ill travelers.</p>	<p>Continue Phase 2 activities.</p> <p>Review epidemiology of novel strain and revise provincial PHMs accordingly.</p> <p>Disseminate educational materials for health care workers during a pandemic.</p> <p>Ensure appropriate and timely dissemination of Travel Advisory/Travel Warning updates.</p> <p>Coordinate teleconferences between affected health unit/s PHAC, provincial agencies and other relevant stakeholders should laboratory-confirmed</p>	<p>Continue Phase 2 activities.</p> <p>INDIVIDUAL-BASED MEASURES WHEN NOVEL VIRUS ACTIVITY IS OCCURRING OUTSIDE OF ONTARIO:</p> <p>Disseminate educational materials for health care workers during a pandemic.</p> <p>Follow routine (interpandemic) protocols for follow up of confirmed/suspect influenza cases and their contacts and respiratory infection outbreak management.</p> <p>INDIVIDUAL-BASED MEASURES WHEN NOVEL VIRUS ACTIVITY IS</p>

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		<p>case/s be identified in Ontario.</p> <p>Develop protocol for teleconferences to ensure organized flow of relevant information.</p> <p>Report community compliance with PHMs to PHAC.</p>	<p>OCcurring WITHIN ONTARIO:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Isolate individuals suspected/ confirmed to be ill with the novel strain in hospital with highest priority for those for whom hospital treatment is clinically indicated. Isolate at home if there is no hospital capacity for less clinically severe cases. Adults recommended for self-isolation at home should stay there for a minimum of 5 days after onset of symptoms or until symptoms have resolved, whichever is longer. 2. Advise contacts¹ of cases to restrict contact with others for 3 days (or for duration of incubation period of novel strain). <p>¹For the purpose of this document, a contact is an individual who had face-to-face contact (within 1 metre) of a suspect or confirmed case.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Implement quarantine and active surveillance for contacts of cases for symptoms of illness for 3 days or duration of incubation period of novel virus, whichever is longer. Consider asking contacts to defer travel for duration of surveillance period. 4. Educate cases who are isolated at home and their contacts about methods to reduce disease transmission (e.g. frequent and thorough hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene), and what to do if illness progresses (cases) or develops (contacts). <p>COMMUNITY MEASURES WHEN NOVEL VIRUS ACTIVITY IS OCCURRING OUTSIDE OF ONTARIO:</p> <p>Adopt revised provincial PHMs</p> <p>Disseminate educational materials for health care workers during a pandemic.</p> <p>Identify and train additional staff in case management and contact tracing to ensure expertise and resources are available for business continuity for outbreak and pandemic management.</p> <p>Ensure infrastructure for information hotline in place.</p> <p>COMMUNITY MEASURES WHEN NOVEL VIRUS ACTIVITY IS OCCURRING WITHIN ONTARIO:</p> <p>Attend teleconferences between affected health unit/s, PHAC and other relevant stakeholders should laboratory-confirmed cases be identified in Ontario.</p> <p>Monitor/track compliance with public health/containment measures until no longer</p>

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<p>Pandemic Alert Period: Phase 4</p> <p>Small cluster(s) with limited human-to-human transmission but spread is highly localized, suggesting that the virus is not well adapted to humans.</p> <p>Goal: To mitigate the effects of a novel strain, should one be detected in Ontario.</p> <p>Focus on novel virus containment.</p>	<p>Continue Phase 3 activities.</p> <p>Consider recommending postponement of all non-essential travel to affected geographic areas within Canada.</p> <p>Consider implementation of exit screening at domestic airports serving affected areas within Canada, in collaboration with MOHLTC and local public health authorities.</p>	<p>Continue Phase 3 activities.</p> <p>Facilitate local implementation of community-based disease control measures.</p> <p>Collaborate with PHAC and local public health authorities to implement exit screening, if required.</p>	<p>sustainable; report compliance to MOHLTC.</p> <p>Continue Phase 3 activities.</p> <p>INDIVIDUAL-BASED MEASURES WHEN NOVEL VIRUS ACTIVITY IS OCCURRING OUTSIDE OF ONTARIO:</p> <p>As per phase 3.</p> <p>INDIVIDUAL-BASED MEASURES WHEN NOVEL VIRUS ACTIVITY IS OCCURRING WITHIN ONTARIO:</p> <p>Implement measures 1, 2, 3, 4 as per phase 3 above.</p> <p>**KEY DECISION²**</p> <p>Individual case and contact management by local public health authorities may need to be discontinued in health units that are heavily impacted during the alert periods.</p> <p>COMMUNITY MEASURES WHEN NOVEL VIRUS ACTIVITY IS OCCURRING OUTSIDE OF ONTARIO:</p> <p>Advise MOHLTC what particular business continuity plans/strategies are if situation escalates.</p> <p>COMMUNITY MEASURES WHEN NOVEL VIRUS ACTIVITY IS OCCURRING WITHIN ONTARIO:</p> <p>Collaborate with PHAC and MOHLTC to implement exit screening if required.</p>
<p>Pandemic Alert Period: Phase 5</p> <p>Larger cluster(s) but human-to-human spread still localized, suggesting that the virus is becoming increasingly better adapted to humans, but may not yet be fully transmissible.</p> <p>Goal: To mitigate the effects of a novel strain, should one be detected in Ontario.</p> <p>Focus on novel virus containment.</p>	<p>Continue Phase 4 activities.</p> <p>Review and, if required, modify national recommendations for public health measures.</p>	<p>Continue Phase 4 activities.</p> <p>Adopt national PHM recommendations.</p> <p>Review and, if required, modify provincial recommendations for public health measures.</p> <p>Provide updates on situations via Important Health Notice and cyclical teleconference/videoconference.</p>	<p>Continue Phase 4 activities.</p> <p>Review/update local plans for public health measures based on national/provincial guidelines and unique needs of own community (e.g. rural vs. urban).</p> <p>INDIVIDUAL-BASED MEASURES WHEN NOVEL VIRUS ACTIVITY IS OCCURRING WITHIN ONTARIO:</p> <p>Implement measures 1, 2, 3, 4 as per phase 3 above.</p> <p>Recommend contacts defer travel for duration of surveillance period.</p> <p>COMMUNITY MEASURES WHEN NOVEL VIRUS ACTIVITY IS OCCURRING OUTSIDE OF ONTARIO:</p> <p>Continue with phase 4 activities.</p> <p>Activate local information hotline.</p> <p>COMMUNITY MEASURES WHEN NOVEL VIRUS ACTIVITY IS OCCURRING WITHIN ONTARIO:</p> <p>Activate local information hotline for frequently asked questions.</p>

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<p>Pandemic Period: Phase 6</p> <p>Increased and sustained transmission in general population.</p> <p>Limited virus spread within Canada.</p> <p>Goal: Communications that reinforce risk reduction strategies.</p>	<p>Activate national pandemic plan.</p> <p>Implement public health response/plan to be used nationally.</p> <p>Revise interventions/national recommendations if required based on available epidemiological data on the strain (i.e. duration of isolation for persons at home).</p>	<p>Activate provincial pandemic plan.</p> <p>Activate Public Health Desk in Ministry Operations Centre.</p> <p>Revise PHM recommendations as necessary.</p> <p>Update educational materials for health care workers as the pandemic evolves.</p> <p>Facilitate local implementation of community-based disease control measures (e.g. by collaborating with Ministry of Education).</p>	<p>Activate local pandemic plans.</p> <p>INDIVIDUAL-BASED MEASURES:</p> <p>Individual case management by local public health authorities will likely not be sustainable and consideration should be given to discontinue at this phase based on local activity and health unit capacity.</p> <p>Isolate individuals suspected to be ill with the novel strain in hospital if clinically indicated, otherwise isolate at home.</p> <p>Contacts of cases to self monitor for symptoms for 3 days after last exposure to case or for duration of incubation period, whichever is longer.</p> <p>Provide contacts with information about how to report symptoms of influenza-like illness (ILI), when isolation is indicated, and when to seek medical care.</p> <p>COMMUNITY MEASURES:</p> <p>Implement provincial pandemic PHMs as conventional (i.e., individual case and contact management) measures may no longer be sustainable due to spread of virus.</p> <p>**KEY DECISION²**</p> <p>Consider implementation of community-based PHMs based on epidemiology of novel strain (e.g. affected age group/s, severity of illness), risk of virus acquisition and unique characteristics of jurisdiction.</p> <p>Communicate about issues pertaining to individual preparedness/protection, curtailment of other public health services/functions.</p>
<p>Pandemic Period: Phase 6 cont.</p> <p>Regional and multi-regional epidemics.</p> <p>Widespread novel virus activity in Canada.</p>	<p>Continue Phase 6 activities.</p> <p>Share education and other resources across jurisdictions.</p> <p>Disseminate public education messages designed to heighten awareness of personal protective measures, self-care and illness reporting [broad messaging, rather than individual-based instructions].</p>	<p>Continue Phase 6 activities.</p> <p>Implement any changes to national PHM recommendations.</p> <p>Disseminate public education messages designed to heighten awareness of personal protective measures, self-care and illness reporting; include advice to contacts (as entire population will now be considered potential cases) [broad messaging, rather than individual-based instructions].</p> <p>Provide feedback on effectiveness of interventions to the Public Health Agency of Canada.</p>	<p>Continue Phase 6 activities.</p> <p>INDIVIDUAL-BASED MEASURES:</p> <p>Individual-based measures will no longer be sustainable.</p> <p>Isolate individuals suspected to be ill with the novel strain in hospital if clinically indicated, otherwise isolate at home.</p> <p>COMMUNITY MEASURES:</p> <p>Disseminate public education messages designed to heighten awareness of personal protective measures, self-care and illness reporting; include advice to contacts (as entire population will now be considered potential cases) [broad messaging, rather than individual-based instructions, e.g. self monitor for ILI].</p> <p>GENERAL MEASURES:</p>

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			Disseminate any revised provincial PHM directives Provide feedback on effectiveness of interventions to the provincial level.
Pandemic Period: Phase 6 cont. End of First Pandemic Wave; Pandemic Subsiding.	Prepare for the next wave: Evaluate the effectiveness of PHMs, and document lessons learned. Review/revise and disseminate public health management guidelines. Update educational materials Scale down public health measures aimed at travelers.	Prepare for the next wave: Solicit feedback from Health Units on lessons learned. Evaluate the effectiveness of PHMs. Document and report lessons learned and disseminate federally and locally. Review/revise public health measures guidelines. Communicate with general public to prepare for next wave.	Prepare for the next wave: Evaluate the effectiveness of PHMs. Document and report lessons learned to the MOHLTC. Restore depleted physical and human resources. Implement psycho-social programs for staff. Communicate with general public to prepare for next wave.
Postpandemic Period	Return to interpandemic influenza prevention and control measures. Evaluate and develop lessons learned to help prepare for next wave.	Return to interpandemic influenza prevention and control measures. Evaluate and develop lessons learned to help prepare for next wave.	Return to interpandemic influenza prevention and control measures. Evaluate and develop lessons learned to help prepare for next wave.