# Communicating Pandemic Influenza







WHEN



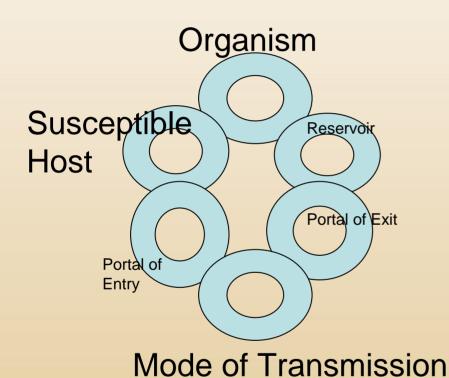
Influenza Pandemic Planning Workshop for Faith Groups
May 16, 2006 – Infection Prevention and Control

Region of Peel Working for you

- Chain of infection
- Transmission
- 5 key messages
- Cleaning
- Pandemic myths and misconceptions
- Pandemic planning considerations for faith groups

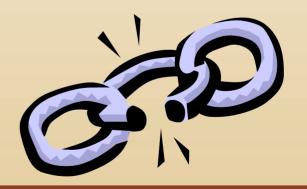


### Chain of Infection



3 main components

Breaking the chain of infection is the key



### Transmission of Influenza Virus

### Spread through respiratory droplets in 2 ways:



Courtesy of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

#### **DIRECT CONTACT**

 Person-to-person contact (1 metre/3 feet)

### Transmission of Influenza Virus

#### **INDIRECT CONTACT**

- Touch articles contaminated with droplets
- Hand-to-mucous membranes (eyes, nose, mouth)
  - Multi-use equipment
  - Frequently touched surfaces
  - Horizontal surfaces
- Virus can survive for hours (e.g., up to 48 hours on hard non-porous surfaces)













### 5 Key Messages

There are **5 things** you can do to prevent the transmission of influenza

Do you know the single most important thing we all can do to prevent the transmission of infection?





### 1. Practice Hand Hygiene

 Wash your hands at a sink with soap and water

### AND/OR

 Use alcohol-based hand cleaner





## When Should you Practice Hand Hygiene?

- Before touching/eating food or drinking
- After coughing, sneezing, blowing your nose, using facial tissue
- After using the washroom
- After touching any body fluids
- After changing diapers
- Before and after providing rites and rituals for the ill
- After shaking hands and touching shared surfaces or objects
- Whenever hands are dirty





· before touching your face



Region of Peel Working for you Public Health

Hand Hygiene/General F-07-325 05/11

### 1. Wet



2. Soap

## Hand washing





3.Scrub



FRegion of Peel Working for you

# Pandemic Alcohol Hand Rub









**Squirt** 

**Swirl** 

**Switch** 

Swirl











Scrub

### 2. Cover your Cough/Sneeze

"Respiratory Etiquette"
When you cough or sneeze:

- Cover your nose and mouth with your elbow/sleeve OR cover your cough with a tissue
- Dispose of the tissue in the garbage
- Clean your hands with soap and water or alcoholbased hand cleaner



# When you cough or sneeze...



 cover your cough with a tissue or your arm

 put used tissues in the waste basket

 clean your hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand cleaner



Respiratory Esquette F-07-025 05/11

### 3. Be Immunized and Stay Well

- Get an influenza immunization each year
- Have good routine health practices such as eating well, getting enough sleep, and exercising regularly



### 4. Stay Home if you are Sick

If you have the following symptoms of influenza, stay home:

- Fever
- New cough or shortness of breath
- Runny nose
- Diarrhea/vomiting (children)

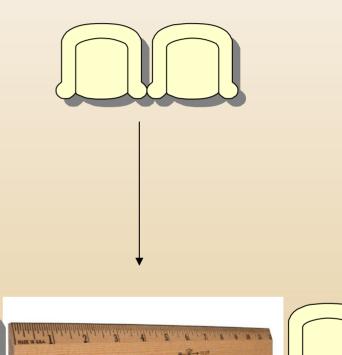


REDUCE RISK TO OTHERS!

### 5. Keep your Distance

### "Social distancing"

- Stay 1 metre/3 feet apart
- Consider alternatives for meeting spiritual and religious care needs



### **Facility Cleaning**

- Maintain a stock of supplies in washrooms and kitchens (paper towels and pump liquid soap)
- Signage reminding hand hygiene in washrooms, kitchens
- Consider having alcohol-based hand cleaner available:
  - where people congregate
  - before and after "hand" contact
  - before and after touching communal religious objects
- Pay special attention to pooled water (e.g., air conditioners, reflecting ponds, etc.)
- Consider supplying facial tissue and extra garbage cans for disposal at meetings, etc.

### Cleaning Procedures

### Regular

- Use household cleaners
- Wipe frequently used surfaces (especially horizontal surfaces)
- Practice hand hygiene after cleaning

### **During Pandemic**

 Same as regular, but increase frequency of cleaning







### Spiritual & Religious Care

#### Do an audit:

- What practices do you perform that bring you or your members within 3 feet/1 metre contact?
- What practices involve hand-to-hand, handto-face touch?
- What rituals (i.e., at birth, death, celebrations) require close contact?
- What objects do you use during your worship that are touched by many people?
- How is your place of worship cleaned?
- What other practices can increase the risk of transmitting influenza virus?









### Myths and Misconceptions

Rodents and insects carry and transmit influenza. False

Wearing protective equipment (i.e., face mask) in public will protect me and prevent transmission to others.

False

It is safe to eat well-cooked poultry and other poultry products in Canada. **True** 



Eating and drinking from communal containers of food/liquids is safe.

Communally used containers of water or other liquids don't carry influenza.

### 5 Key Messages

- 1. Practice hand hygiene (soap and water or hand sanitizer)
- 2. Cover your cough and sneeze
- 3. Be immunized and stay well
- 4. Stay home if you are sick
- 5. Keep your distance



### Pandemic Planning

- How will you promote the 5 key messages?
- How will you implement social distancing?
- Are there alternative ways you can meet spiritual and religious care needs?
- How will you encourage people who are sick to remain at home and support them with other ways to worship?
- How can you promote immunization and staying well to your congregation members?
- How will you provide spiritual and religious support during a pandemic?

### Your Challenge

We need **your** assistance to educate your faith communities in infection prevention and control by:

- Emphasizing the importance of practicing hand hygiene, covering sneezes/coughs, staying well, staying home if sick, and social distancing
- Debunking myths and misconceptions
- Educating your faith communities in infection prevention and control practices
- Examining your facility cleaning practices
- Role modeling the 5 key messages