

April 2006

Emergency Infection Control Kit

We are pleased to supply you with this Emergency Infection Control Kit. This kit is intended for large-scale infectious disease emergencies such as flu pandemic. The kit should only be opened in an emergency where the contents of the kit are necessary to supplement the supplies in your office. Please do *not* open the kit upon receipt.

The emergency infection control kits were developed by the ministry in consultation with the Ontario Medical Association, the Ontario College of Family Physicians, and the Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee.

The kit provides enough supplies to be used by health care providers to protect themselves and their patients from infection for the first seven to 10 days of an outbreak of a droplet-spread illness. As a community health care provider you will be among the first to receive patients suffering from, or concerned about, a novel virus or infectious disease circulating in the community. We want to be sure that you, your staff, and your patients have the tools and information you need to protect yourselves. The contents of the Emergency Infection Control Kit are detailed on the enclosed Inventory fact sheet.

These kits provide the first line of defense only. The ministry is looking at broader stockpiling options for pandemic supplies that can be accessed by health care providers and facilities when their supplies are exhausted and supply chains are severed. More details regarding planning for the central ministry stockpile will be available in the next iteration of the Ontario Health Plan for an Influenza Pandemic, due this summer.

The ministry recommends that health care facilities maintain a one-month supply of personal protective equipment. While it is more difficult for smaller community clinics to achieve this, they should ensure that they routinely have enough personal protective equipment on hand to accommodate the demands of their practice, as well as some surge capacity.

For more information on the contents of the kits as well as additional details on infection control and emergency planning visit www.health.gov.on.ca/pandemic or email us at emergencyICkits@moh.gov.on.ca.

Good infection control practices, including proper hand hygiene, are the simplest and most effective weapon we have to combat infection and protect Ontario's health care workers.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Sheela Basrur
Chief Medical Officer of Health
11th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4



Allison Stuart
Director, Emergency Management Unit
8th Floor, Suite 801
415 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M5B 2E7