

Enhanced Hospital Surveillance for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)

ARDS or Severe Pneumonia of unknown aetiology in persons with Geo-links (residence or travel/visit) to affected areas WITHIN CANADA

Geo-linked Persons:

A person **admitted to hospital** with:

- Fever (over 38 degrees Celsius)

AND

- Cough or breathing difficulty

AND

- radiographic evidence of infiltrates consistent with pneumonia or respiratory distress syndrome (RDS) on chest x-ray (CXR).

AND

- Residence, recent travel or visit within 10 days of onset of symptoms to an area **within Canada*** where probable cases of SARS have been identified and 3 or more generations of transmission have occurred.

OR

A deceased person, with autopsy findings consistent with the pathology of RDS without an identifiable cause.

AND

- Residence, recent travel or visit within 10 days of onset of symptoms to an area **within Canada*** where probable cases of SARS have been identified and 3 or more generations of transmission have occurred.

Exclusion Criteria

A person should be excluded if an alternate diagnosis can fully explain their illness.

An area should be included as an affected area within Canada until 20 days after the isolation date of the last indigenously acquired suspect or probable case.

*Including any area within Canada where 3 or more generations of transmission have occurred; for example, the City of Toronto. This excludes airport transit through these areas. Note that Durham, Peel, and York Region health regions are no longer included.