

**Ministry of Health  
and Long-Term Care**

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To: Healthcare Providers

From: Allison J. Stuart, Director  
Emergency Management Unit

Re: *Changes to Infection Control and Surveillance Standards for Febrile Respiratory Illness (FRI) in Non-Outbreak Conditions in Acute Care Hospitals*

The standards for febrile respiratory illness infection control and surveillance outline a sequence of five questions to be asked as part of the screening process in the acute care hospital. Questions one and two ask about respiratory symptoms and fever. A positive response to both of those questions generates a question regarding travel to China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. Given the current concerns regarding Avian Flu an advisory was circulated on January 16 to ask individuals with respiratory symptoms and fever about recent travel to Vietnam, in addition to China, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

The screening questions in the standards have been modified to reflect this new concern. A copy of the revised questions is attached for your information.

In future, should the Chief Medical Officer of Health wish to modify the areas of geographic concern, both additions and deletions, you will be notified through the Important Health Notice distribution system. A copy of the revised screening questions will be attached with the current date.

Thank you for your attention to this important aspect of the surveillance standards.

Allison J. Stuart