

Note: where the term patient is used, it shall be interpreted as referring to patient, resident, or client.

DO YOU HAVE A POSSIBLE OUTBREAK?

Call IP&C/designate.

On weekends/after hours, follow site/region/SDO specific notification process. Initial information to be reported:

- Total number of symptomatic patients
- Onset date of initial cases
- Location of outbreak in facility
- Control measures implemented
- Laboratory or diagnostics completed as ordered by site primary care provider

IMPLEMENT **ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS** AND OTHER OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT MEASURES

- Place ILI/respiratory illness case on Droplet/Contact Precautions (considering COVID-19 context also use Airborne for any AGMPs)
- Place COVID-19 case on Droplet/Contact Precautions with Airborne for AGMPs
- Place GI illness case on Contact Precautions (considering context of COVID-19 use Droplet/Contact Precautions with Airborne for any AGMPs)
- Cohort** cases away from those not ill (minimum 2m separation between ill and those without symptoms)
- Ensure supplies of ABHR, PPE (gowns, gloves, masks, eye protection), and cleaning/disinfecting supplies are available
- Increase cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched areas to at least twice daily and when visibly soiled
- Promote hand hygiene measures and cough etiquette with staff, patients, family and visitors
- Dedicate equipment or ensure equipment is cleaned/disinfected before use with another patient
- Visitation
 - General visitors are **not permitted** during an outbreak, except in End of Life situations
 - Designated Caregiver (DC) should continue to occur virtually wherever possible. In-person visitation is considered in order to meet care needs of resident/patient.
- Restrict movement of patients within the facility, with discontinuation of all non-essential activities, including communal activities

QUICK REFERENCE: OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT

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COLLECT SPECIMENS

- Collect specimens as recommended by IP&C/designate:
 - **If ILI or COVID-19 Outbreak** – ensure nasopharyngeal (NP) swabs and universal transport medium are available
 - [Respiratory Virus Specimen Collection](#)
 - **If GI Outbreak** – ensure preservative free containers are available for stool specimens.
 - [Gastrointestinal Illness \(GI\) Outbreak Specimen Collection](#)
- Regional/SDO IP&C/designate to obtain outbreak code. This is to be included on ALL specimen lab requisitions
- Label specimens **URGENT** and ask staff to transport as a priority

DOCUMENT THE OUTBREAK SYMPTOMS IN THE HEALTH RECORD AND CREATE A LINE LIST

- Details of symptoms must be either well documented and/or line listed with demographic information
- Ensure documentation and/or line lists are updated daily with any new cases or suspect cases
- Update documentation and/or line lists with any positive specimen results

NOTIFICATIONS

- Share line listing with IP&C/designate daily; include any deaths. Deaths associated with an outbreak must be reported to Manitoba Health (MH) via their notification form
- Notify Materials Management/Supply Chain a possible increase in supplies may be needed
- In all sites, IP&C/designate will communicate initial and final update to applicable stakeholders and report as required to the region/MH using CNPHI

INTERACTIONS BETWEEN STAFF AND PEOPLE RECEIVING CARE

- Strive to have individual staff members working with either ill or well patients. When they must work with both, as much as possible staff should move from asymptomatic to symptomatic patients ensuring adherence to Routine Practices and Additional Precautions when required

SHARING OF INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

- Inform appropriate facility staff that an outbreak is occurring
- At start of outbreak investigation, check with IP&C/designate regarding placing signage at unit/area/facility entrances
- Educate patients and visitors/designated caregivers regarding outbreak measures

PREPARE FOR POSSIBLE ANTIVIRAL TREATMENT ACCORDING TO IDENTIFIED ORGANISM

- If LTC, locate the precalculated dosages for oseltamivir and have available should the Attending physician/PCH Medical Director/MOH order/recommend prophylaxis if a confirmed influenza outbreak
- If applicable, inform pharmacy for potential increase of antivirals and immunizations