



Communications/Information Bulletin
H1N1 Flu Virus Pandemic

Date: December 11, 2009

Key Messages:

- Levels of influenza-like-illness continue to decrease nationally, provincially and locally.
 - Since Sept. 1, 255 cases of influenza A*, at varying stages of confirmation have been reported in Waterloo Region. Virtually all are expected to be H1N1. Only three new cases were confirmed over the past week.
 - No schools are reporting absenteeism rates over 10 percent.
 - Emergency room visits (all-cause) decreased by three per cent since last week, and are similar to what they were at this time last year.

*As of December 5, 2009.

- Region of Waterloo Public Health announced that there will be two additional influenza immunization clinics in December 2009:
 - December 14 – Jacob Hespeler Secondary School - 355 Holiday Inn Dr., Cambridge
 - December 15 – Forest Heights Collegiate Institute – 255 Fischer-Hallman Rd., Kitchener
 Both clinics will offer the H1N1 and seasonal vaccines.
- Not all individuals under 10 years of age require a second dose of the H1N1 flu vaccine. Dosing recommendations for children are as follows:

Category	Dosing Recommendation
Age 6 months to less than 3 years	2 half-doses of adjuvanted vaccine There should be a minimum of 21 days between the 2 half-doses.
Age 3 to 9 years - <i>Healthy children</i>	1 half-dose adjuvanted vaccine, for now*
Age 3 to 9 years - <i>Children with chronic medical conditions**</i>	2 half-doses of adjuvanted vaccine There should be a minimum of 21 days between the 2 half-doses.

* These recommendations may be updated as more information becomes available.

** Chronic medical conditions are defined as conditions “significant enough to require regular medical follow-up.”

- Region of Waterloo Public Health continues to operate its H1N1 general information line. Individuals are invited to phone 519-883-2289 if they have any questions or require information.