



## Communications/Information Bulletin H1N1 Flu Virus Pandemic

**Date: September 11, 2009**

### Primary Key Messages:

- **Trends:**
  - Surveillance measures note a decrease in the number of laboratory confirmed cases this past week; however, sentinel physicians report higher consultation rates for influenza-like-illness. Overall, the province suggests influenza activity in Ontario is higher this past week.
  - The population-based hospitalization rate for H1N1 is 2.86 admissions per 100,000 Ontarians, and the population-based mortality rate is 0.18 deaths per 100,000 Ontarians. Over 78 per cent of fatal cases are in individuals over 40 years of age.
- **Guidelines for the management of H1N1 in elementary and secondary schools, childcare centres, faith communities, post-secondary institutions, shelters and pregnant women have been developed or are currently under development.**
  - This week, the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care released "Guidelines for Prevention and Management of Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 Influenza Virus in Colleges and Universities." [www.health.gov.on.ca/en/ccom/flu/h1n1/pro/](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/ccom/flu/h1n1/pro/)
  - A supplemental guidance document to the Ministry guidelines was released by Region of Waterloo Public Health - <http://www.waterlooregionpandemic.ca/en/>
  - Region of Waterloo Public Health is currently developing guidelines for childcare centres, faith communities and shelters. These are expected to be released in the next two weeks. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is also working to develop guidelines for the prevention and treatment of H1N1 for pregnant women
- The Public Health Agency of Canada released a guidance document for public health officials related to the prevention and management of influenza-like-illness (ILI), including the pandemic H1N1 flu virus - <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/alert-alerte/h1n1/phg-ldp-eng.php>
- The Public Health Agency of Canada released a guidance document on individual and community-based measures to help prevent transmission of influenza-like-illness in the community - [http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/alert-alerte/h1n1/hp-ps-info\\_health-sante-eng.php](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/alert-alerte/h1n1/hp-ps-info_health-sante-eng.php)
- **In general, educational settings, organizations and workplaces are not required to take any special actions at this time.** The public should keep doing what they normally do. **Organizations should ensure their influenza pandemic/continuity plans, including their related human resources polices, are current.**
- The **key preventive measures** remain the same: regular hand washing, proper respiratory/cough etiquette and staying away from work or school when ill.

### Surveillance Data (H1N1 Cases):

#### In Ontario:

- Laboratory-confirmed cases: 4064
- Hospitalizations: 370 (cumulative)
- Deaths: 23

#### In Waterloo Region:

- Laboratory-confirmed cases: 38
- Hospitalizations: 9 (cumulative)
- Deaths: 0