

ENTERIC and RESPIRATORY OUTBREAK QUICK REFERENCE

Updated: Dec. 2014

Outbreak Definitions

Enteric

A “case” is a resident with 2 or more episodes of vomiting and/or diarrhea in a 24 hour period without a non-infectious cause. (e.g. laxative).

An **suspect “Outbreak”** is 2 or more cases in a 48 hour period.

OR

More enteric illness than you would normally expect for the facility during a specific period of time.

Respiratory

A “case” is a resident with 2 or more respiratory symptoms that are new or not explained by something such as allergies.

An **suspect “Outbreak”** is 2 or more cases within a 48 hour period in the same geographic area. (e.g. unit, floor)

OR

More than one unit having a case within a 48 hour period.

OR

A lab confirmed case of Influenza.

Suspect an Outbreak?

1. Notify your management.
2. Create a case definition. What are the symptoms? When did it start?
3. Start line lists: one for residents and one for staff.
4. Contact the Simcoe Muskoka District Health (SMDHU) CD Team
5. Collect specimens from ill residents. Instructions are in the kits.
Enteric: Use enteric outbreak stool kit and fill all 3 containers.
Respiratory: Use NP swabs.
6. Fill out Lab requisition form
7. Contact SMDHU for pick up of samples to be submitted to the Orillia Public Health Laboratory.
8. Ensure Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is available.
9. Notify community partners such as CCAC, nursing agencies, and local hospital ICP and ER.
10. Implement Outbreak Control Measures.

Resident Name	Unit	Symptoms	Onset Date	Status

Outbreak Control Measures

- ⇒ Increase hand hygiene for residents and staff.
- ⇒ Enhance cleaning and disinfecting of all commonly touched surfaces.
- ⇒ Post outbreak signage at all entrances to the facility.
- ⇒ Isolate ill residents in their rooms:
Enteric: 48 hours symptom free or in consultation with ICP or SMDHU.
Respiratory: until 5 days from onset of symptoms or when symptoms have resolved whichever is shorter.
- ⇒ Post signage at the entrance to ill resident’s room.
- ⇒ Exclude ill staff and volunteers from work: (Same timelines as for isolation of residents)
- ⇒ Limit visitors and unnecessary personnel from entering the facility or unit affected.
- ⇒ Use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as gloves, gowns, and masks when entering an ill resident’s rooms.
- ⇒ Cohort staff providing care to ill residents.
- ⇒ Reschedule non-urgent appointments if possible. Notify receiving facility that you are in an outbreak.
- ⇒ Reschedule communal activities and meeting.
- ⇒ Dedicate resident care equipment to ill residents (i.e. commode).
- ⇒ Provide health teaching to staff and residents.

SMDHU (Communicable Disease Team)

Contact Numbers

Days (0830—1630 hrs): **705-721-7520 ext. 8809**
After hours On-Call (1630—0830 hrs and Wknds):
1-888-225-7851.