

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

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**Ministère de la Santé
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To: Health and Broader Public Sector Agencies

**From: Phil Graham, Interim Director
Emergency Management Unit, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care**

**RE: Health Emergency Stockpiling - Information for the Health and Broader
Public Sector**

During an influenza pandemic or other large-scale health emergency, it is anticipated that health service providers will need large quantities of personal protective equipment and infection control supplies to provide patient care and other services and to protect the health and safety of health workers. Demand for such supplies will be high worldwide and it is likely that traditional supply chains, including distribution channels, will be disrupted.

As established in the Ontario Health Plan for an Influenza Pandemic (OHPIP), it is recommended **that all health care settings/providers plan for and maintain a 4-week stockpile of personal protective equipment and other critical supplies, intended to cover the first half of a potential 8-week wave of influenza.** This will be complemented by a 4-week stockpile maintained by the ministry. Details on this can be found in Chapter 10 of the OHPIP, available at www.health.gov.on.ca/pandemic

To assist health service providers and other members of the broader public sector (BPS) to meet this stockpile objective, the ministry has made competitive pricing available for procurements of personal protective equipment and infection control supplies. Accessing this pricing could be a significant advantage for health care facilities and other service providers in completing their influenza pandemic and health emergency stockpiling.

The ministry will enter into a process of facilitation between the vendors and the health and broader public sector, beginning in April 2009 and for most products ending in January 2010. Please consult vendor specific pricing sheets for more details. Specific arrangements for these supplies are to be arranged between the vendors and members of the health and broader public sector. **Attached is a description of the process for utilizing this program.**

Additional information such as FAQs are available on the emergency stockpile component of the ministry's website at: www.health.gov.on.ca/emergencystockpiling

Any questions or access to the pricing sheets can be directed to the Emergency Management Unit at emergencystockpiling.moh@ontario.ca or by phone at 1-866-212-2272.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Graham', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Phil Graham
Interim Director
Emergency Management Unit
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Attachment.