

Important Health Notice

Information for Healthcare Professionals UPDATE

May 5, 2009
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This Important Health Notice (IHN) is based on the current information received to date and provides the following:

- Status update
- Information on and reference to the updated *Guidance for ILI Management in Long-Term Care* (May 5th, 2009)

Status Update:

The World Health Organization (WHO) pandemic threat level remains unchanged at Phase Five.

As of May 5th, there are 36 lab-confirmed cases of H1N1 flu virus in Ontario. The regional breakdown is as follows:

- Durham Region: 6
- Halton: 1
- City of Ottawa: 1
- Oxford County: 1
- Peel Region: 3
- Simcoe Muskoka: 1
- Sudbury and District: 1
- Toronto: 10
- Windsor Essex: 4
- York Region: 8

Of the 36 confirmed cases in Ontario, 27 have a travel history to Mexico. Two of the cases without a travel history to Mexico had close contact with confirmed cases and the remaining 7 are under investigation.

All of the cases are mild and are recovering at home.

Highlights:

- The number of Ontario's confirmed cases of H1N1 (human swine flu) is 36

What's New:

- Updated *Guidance for Influenza Like Illness (ILI) Management in Long-Term Care* (May 5, 2009)

Guidance for Long-Term Care:

The document *Guidance for Influenza Like Illness (ILI) Management in Long-Term Care* has been updated to:

- Reinforce the importance of screening all persons who enter the long-term care home as the key method of preventing H1N1 from entering the home
- Reinforce the use of routine precautions and procedures to manage ILI
- Provide clinical guidelines for the management of H1N1

The updated document is available on the ministry website at:

<http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/emu/ihn.html>

For questions on Important Health Notices, please call the Healthcare Providers Hotline toll free, at 1-866-212-2272. Hours of operation of the line are 0800 hours to 2000 hours.

Refer to future IHNs for changes to hours of operation.



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