



Outbreak Control Measures for Influenza in Long-Term Care Homes

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In the event of an outbreak caused by Influenza, the following control measures are recommended *in addition to the control measures for respiratory illness*.

Control Measures for Staff, Students and Volunteers	
Ill Staff See page 44 of guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must remain off work/placement until the period of communicability (five days from the onset for influenza) has passed. This includes staff on antiviral medication.
Well Staff See pages 45, 50, 51 of guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immunized staff have NO restrictions. • Unimmunized: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Should immediately be offered the vaccine (unless there's a contraindication) and antiviral prophylaxis for two weeks after vaccination OR ○ Antiviral prophylaxis taken until outbreak is declared over (can return to work after first dose) OR ○ Excluded from work until outbreak declared over. ○ Unimmunized staff working in an outbreak LTCH can work in a non outbreak or alternate healthcare setting if three or more days (one incubation period) have passed since their last day of activities in the outbreak LTCH.
Working at Other Facilities See page 44 of guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immunized staff have NO restrictions. Change uniform between facilities. • Unvaccinated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Not receiving prophylaxis: wait one incubation period (3 days) from the last day of work at outbreak facility prior to working in a non-outbreak facility. ○ Receiving prophylaxis: May work at other facilities, assuming the following considerations: they do not have a fever and/or acute respiratory illness, does not conflict with the policies of the receiving facility, does not conflict with the MOH or designate.
Control Measures for Residents	
Well Residents See page 51 of guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiviral prophylaxis until the outbreak is declared over.
Ill Residents See page 52,54-55 of guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiviral treatment dosing started as soon as possible, preferably within 48 hrs of symptom onset. • For laboratory confirmed outbreaks, additional laboratory confirmation of each new case is not required in order to initiate antiviral treatment in individuals who meet the outbreak case definition. • Antiviral algorithm for prophylaxis and treatment dosing can be found on pages 54-55 of the guide.

References: Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Public Health Division. (November 2018). *Control of Respiratory Infection Outbreaks in Long-Term Care Homes*. Retrieved from: http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/oph_standards/docs/reference/RESP_infectn_ctrl_guide_LTC_2018_en.pdf