Issue #15 April 2024

A monthly newsletter for healthcare practitioners in Grey-Bruce

## GBPH continuing to monitor provincial, national measles activity

No cases reported in Grey-Bruce to date.

**Public Health** 

- As of March 27, 2024, there have been nine measles cases reported in Ontario this year. Eight of the cases have been travel-related, with one having an unknown source of exposure. To date, there have been no reports of secondary cases.
- March 27, 2024 Memo from Ontario's Chief MOH Dr. Kieran Moore contains key actions and key resources for healthcare providers related to measles.
- PHO is publishing weekly <u>Measles in Ontario</u> enhanced epidemiological summaries.
- PHO's <u>Measles resource for Healthcare Providers</u> was updated March 15, 2024, and includes information on diagnosis, testing, and IPAC practices, including updated direction for all HCWs to wear a fit-tested, seal-checked N95 mask when caring for suspected or confirmed measles patients, regardless of the HWCs immunity.
- March 27, 2024 Simcoe-Muskoka District Health Unit Media Release <u>Corrected lab</u> result shows March 12 measles case in Simcoe-Muskoka did not have measles

## Preparation well underway for spring COVID-19 vaccine campaign

- GBPH is asking local Healthcare Providers to complete the following survey regarding plans for administering COVID-19 vaccines this spring: <u>Survey Link</u>.
- Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health has notified Public Health Units that, in alignment with the National Advisory Committee on Immunization, individuals who are at <u>increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19</u> may receive an additional dose of an XBB-containing COVID-19 vaccine this spring (April - June 2024).

## **GBPH** shares eclipse resources

- March 26, 2024 Media Release: GBPH advises residents to protect their visual health during solar eclipse
- GBPH has also created the following printable resources:
  - FAQ on Solar Eclipse Safety.
  - Infographic on Solar Eclipse Safety.

# **Resources for Primary Care Professionals: Latest Posts**

- March 15, 2024 GBPH has updated its <u>STI Treatment Reference Guide</u>, which can be found on our website along with an <u>ordering form for publicly funded STI medications</u>.
- PHO has updated their <u>IPAC Checklist for Clinical Office Practice</u>, which aims to aid clinical office practices in conducting their own IPAC self-assessment and provides summarized information on Provincial IPAC recommendations.
- Canadian Communicable Disease Report (CCDR), January/February 2024, <u>Burden of disease of RSV in infants, children and pregnant people.</u>
- CCDR, January/February 2024, <u>Canadian vaccine safety surveillance reports following immunization.</u>
- CCDR, January/February 2024, <u>COVID-19 outcome trends by vaccination status in Canada</u>. This surveillance report provides a retrospective descriptive analysis of national trends in COVID-19 cases and severe outcomes by vaccination status.

# Grey Bruce Public Health Media Releases: March 2024

- March 5, 2024 <u>Public Health issues opioid alert following multiple drug overdoses</u> within 24 hours
- March 15, 2024: GBPH encourages residents to test their well water this spring