

Primary Care Update

A monthly newsletter for healthcare practitioners in Grey-Bruce

Issue #27 April 2025

Update on Measles situation in Ontario

- Grey Bruce Public Health has been working with the family of a local child who tested positive for measles to ensure containment of the virus and prevent its spread within Grey-Bruce. The child, who was unvaccinated, completed their isolation period on March 20, 2025. GBPH has been in contact with the family and relevant healthcare partners and managing this situation since receiving the report of measles-related symptoms. A collaborative effort ensured no further spread of measles. No additional measles cases have been reported in Grey-Bruce and no community exposure risks linked to the case were identified.
- Public Health Ontario (PHO) has developed a <u>new measles exposure webpage</u>, with information about all Ontario measles exposures published by public health units.
- The Ontario College of Family Physicians offers an updated <u>resource on measles</u>, focused on primary care. Please note that in outpatient/primary care settings where serology cannot be collected, PCR testing (NP/throat AND urine) is sufficient. Suspect cases should be reported to Public Health.
- GBPH has developed a <u>printable poster</u> that Primary Care Providers can post to advise
 the public of measles symptoms and to refrain from entering the clinic/office if any
 symptoms are present.
- PHO has released its latest <u>Enhanced Epidemiological Summary on Measles in Ontario</u>, which includes data up to March 26, 2025. Since October 2024, Ontario has reported 572 measles cases in 13 Public Health Unit areas associated with the ongoing outbreak.
- The number of cases in Ontario increased by 102 between March 20 and 26, due to continued exposures and transmission among individuals who have not been immunized. Among the infants/children/adolescents in Ontario who have acquired measles, 93.8% were unimmunized, while among adults, 62.9% were unimmunized.
- PHO has created an "At A Glance Measles: Post-Exposure Prophylaxis for Contacts" document, intended for use by healthcare providers. It summarizes existing measles post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) guidance for individuals who have been exposed to measles and are not expected to have measles immunity. The document is a companion piece to PHO's "At A Glance: Measles Information for Health Care Providers." Newly published guidance on PEP recommendations for immunocompromised individuals is also available: Report and Summary.

Reminder about reporting all animal bites/scratches to Public Health

- With the arrival of spring, GBPH would like to remind healthcare providers of their obligation to notify Public Health when a patient reports an animal bite or other animal contact incident that may expose a person to rabies.
- The Health Protection and Promotion Act specifies that:
 - A physician, registered nurse in the extended class, veterinarian, police officer or any other person who has information concerning either or both of the following shall, as soon as possible, notify the medical officer of health and provide the MOH with the information, including the name and contact information of the exposed person: any bite from a mammal; any contact with a mammal that is conducive to the potential transmission of rabies to persons.
- Animal bites and scratches can be reported directly to Public Health Inspectors

Resources for Primary Care Professionals

- March 2025 Public Health Ontario has created a new "Infection Prevention and Control for Home and Community Care" resource, which outlines infection prevention and control (IPAC) best-practices in home and community care settings. It includes information and tools that can be used by home and community care staff to implement and reinforce IPAC best-practices.
 PHO has also launched a Quick Reference Guide to support the implementation of IPAC best-practices outlined in the new resource.
- March 2025 PHO's new report, <u>Concussion Incidence in Ontario</u>, is the first time province-wide sport-related concussion incidence is being reported for public health use. It provides information on the number and rate of all concussion and sport-related concussion in Ontario children and youth.
- March 2025 PHO has posted the slide presentation and recording of its recent "PHO Rounds" on Candida auris, entitled <u>Candida auris: A New Disease of Public Health Significance (DOPHS) Management of this Highly Transmissible Fungal Pathogen.</u>

Grey Bruce Public Health Media Releases: March 2025

- March 14, 2025 <u>Grey Bruce Public Health encouraging residents to test their well</u>
 water this spring
- March 21, 2025 Grey Bruce Public Health confirms local measles case