

VIRAL Respiratory Infection (VRI) **OUTBREAK** In Island Health Long Term Care Affiliate and Private Facilities

CD/MHO completes investigation & risk assessment.

OUTBREAK DECLARED

NO

Apply Individual Precautions:

Reduce ill residents' contact with others by applying **DROPLET & CONTACT** precautions, with tray service.

YES

STAFF

Influenza

- ☐ Staff may continue to work in the facility including on OB units regardless of vaccine status.
- ☐ MHO may recommend antiviral prophylaxis for unvaccinated staff in a prolonged outbreak. Staff can access antivirals through their own family physician. Staff are not to be excluded from work if they refuse prophylaxis.

TREATMENT & PROPHYLAXIS – RESIDENTS

Influenza:

- ☐ Prepare for oseltamivir prophylaxis as soon as possible after influenza is confirmed.
- ☐ MHO determines if antiviral prophylaxis of residents is recommended.
- ☐ MRP assesses appropriateness & orders prophylaxis for individual residents.

COVID:

- ☐ Residents with symptomatic COVID-19 illness to be assessed by their physician for consideration of evidence-based therapy options.

PRECAUTIONS

- ☐ Pause admissions to outbreak unit, unless authorized by MHO.
 - Inform CD nurse or other designate if there are pending admissions from community who are at intolerable risk or pending admissions from acute care.
- ☐ Apply droplet and contact precautions for confirmed/probable resident cases only (no need to apply to others within the outbreak unit).
- ☐ Limit congregation of residents: Suspend communal dining (i.e. provide tray service to all residents on the outbreak unit/floor) and group activities.
- ☐ Cohort staff when possible.
- ☐ Inform housekeeping of the need for enhanced cleaning for affected rooms, common areas, and high touch surfaces.
- ☐ Verify immunization status of all residents. Offer vaccine to any unvaccinated residents and staff.
- ☐ Observe all residents of affected unit/floor for symptoms.

DIRECTOR OF CARE/MANAGER/DELEGATE

- ☐ Activate your communication plan for residents, family, staff, volunteers, and visitors.
- ☐ Post outbreak signs and alert visitors to go to the nursing station for instructions prior to visiting residents.
- ☐ Send tracking tools to CD Program (for all VRIs as per policy).
- ☐ Refer to [VRI Management Guidelines LTC](#) for additional information

OUTBREAK DECLARED OVER

- ☐ The CD office, in collaboration with the MHO, will declare the viral respiratory illness outbreak over and inform the DOC/Manager/Delegate