



News Release

Daily Pandemic Update
November 11, 2009

Central Health provides pandemic update

Central Health would like to provide the following information as the *Daily Pandemic Update*. Today's update is **accurate as of 8:00 a.m., today, Wednesday, November 11, 2009.**

Number of new admissions with influenza-like-illness (ILI)	4
Total number of admissions with ILI	31
Of number of total admissions with ILI, number of patients in ICU	10
Of the patients in ICU, number of patients on ventilator	2

High risk groups currently eligible for H1N1 vaccine

Central Health would like to reiterate that due to the reduced amount of available vaccine, the H1N1 vaccine is currently limited to the following high-risk groups:

- Individuals under 65 years of age with chronic respiratory disease such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or cystic fibrosis.
 - *Eligibility will require proof of active treatment of the disease (e.g. Prescription, labeled medication, insurance forms, etc.).*
- Individuals under 65 years of age with compromised respiratory function due to a physical, neurological or muscular disorder [e.g. ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease), Multiple Sclerosis (MS), Spina Bifida, Muscular Dystrophy, quadriplegia, paraplegia].
 - *Individuals who fall into this high-risk group are asked to contact the Central Health Pandemic Information Line at 1-877-311-2613 and leave their name, number and location. Central Health will then contact each individual to arrange for immunization. In addition, Central Health will also attempt to contact individuals in this high-risk group who are known to the organization to arrange for immunization.*
- Children from grades four to six (to be immunized in school on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 as per arrangements to be made by the Nova Central School District).
- Children six months up to fifty-nine months of age.
- People five years of age up to and including 24 years of age with chronic conditions.

- Pregnant women in the second half of their pregnancy (20 to 40 weeks).
- Parents or other primary care providers (up to two per child) of children under the age of six months.
- Parents or other primary care providers of immunocompromised children and young adults (up to and including 24 years of age) who cannot themselves be vaccinated.
- Pregnant women in the first half of their pregnancy (up to 20 weeks).
- Hospital in-patients less than 65 years of age with one or more chronic health conditions.
- School-aged children from Kindergarten to grade three.
- Individuals between the ages of 25 and up to the 40th birthday with chronic respiratory disease such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or cystic fibrosis.
 - *People will need to show proof that they are actively being treated for the disease. Examples of proof include prescription, labeled medication, insurance forms, etc.).*
- Individuals undergoing active cancer treatment (chemotherapy or radiation).
- Transplant patients, including:
 - Those on a waitlist who have been directed by their physician to receive the vaccine.
 - Those who have had a transplant in the last two years.

People meeting the above-noted criteria that have not yet been immunized are asked to contact Central Health's Pandemic Information Line and leave their name, number and location. Someone will follow-up with you to arrange for you to receive the vaccine.

Service changes

No service changes to report today.

Visitation restrictions

Central Health would also like to remind the public that Notre Dame Bay Memorial Health Centre in Twillingate, North Haven Manor in Lewisporte and Valley Vista Senior Citizen's Home in Springdale are closed to visitors. In all other health centres and long term care sites, limited visitation restrictions are still in place throughout the region. **Limited visitation** means that the following regulations will be strictly enforced:

- No children under 14 years of age;
- One visitor per client at a time; and,
- Visitor must be a member of the client's immediate family.

Central Health's Pandemic Information Line is 1-877-311-2613.

Please be advised that Central Health will provide another update on this information again tomorrow.

Media contact: Stephanie Power, (709) 256-5532