

**DIRECTIVE
PANDEMIC (H1N1) 2009**

DISCONTINUING CONTACT AND MODIFIED DROPLET PRECAUTIONS	Reference: 01 - 002
	Effective Date: FROM: 21 Jul 2009 TO: Until Further Notice
Authorized by: EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT	Revised: 20 Oct 2009

PURPOSE

To ensure Contact and Modified Droplet Precautions are discontinued when appropriate.

DIRECTIVE

Patients and residents with suspected or confirmed Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 require Contact and Modified Droplet Precautions (as per IPC Bulletin #4). To prevent exposure to other patients or healthcare workers, precautions must be discontinued appropriately.

Directions for discontinuing Contact and Modified Droplet Precautions for suspect or confirmed Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 are outlined by patient category.

Category of Patient	Discontinue Precautions
Admitted suspect Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 patient or resident	Only on receipt of a negative Respiratory Viral Panel Nucleic Acid Test (PCR) result from Nasopharyngeal Swab/Aspirate or Bronchial Alveolar Lavage specimen.
Confirmed Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 patient or resident (except those listed below)	When all symptoms have resolved <u>and</u> not before 7 days from the start of symptoms*. If in doubt, contact IPC.
➤ Patient admitted to Critical Care / Intensive Care Units	Not before 10 days from beginning of symptoms <u>or</u> guided by repeat viral sampling from respiratory tract specimens and in consultation with Infection Prevention and Control.
➤ Child under 5 years of age	Not before 10 days from beginning of symptoms* <u>and</u> with approval of IPC.
➤ Severely Immunocompromised Patient (e.g. bone marrow and other transplant recipients, oncology patients, etc.)	<u>Only</u> with approval of IPC.

* Repeat Respiratory Viral Panel for Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 is not required to discontinue precautions.

This Directive is subject to change as more information becomes available about Pandemic (H1N1) 2009.

APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to all Alberta Health Services staff, medical staff, volunteers, students and other persons acting on behalf of the Region.

CONTACT

For more information or clarification, please contact your facility's Infection Prevention and Control Professional or Designate.