

## Influenza-Like Illness or Confirmed Influenza

### A Point of Care Risk Assessment

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## Changes in Infection Control Practice

Due to legislation from Alberta Employment and Immigration, all sites/sectors of Alberta Health Services must change their requirements regarding the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) when dealing with a person(s) who has Influenza-like illness (ILI) or confirmed Influenza.

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## Audience and Objective

### Audience

- All persons who work or volunteer with patients/clients/residents who have ILI or confirmed Influenza in any health care setting

### Objective

- Understand and identify the symptoms of ILI
- Understand how to select the proper PPE based on the level of interaction with a patient/client/resident with ILI or confirmed Influenza

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## Point of Care Risk Assessment (PCRA)

- PCRA is an activity performed before every patient/client/resident interaction, whereby a healthcare worker (HCW) or other staff:
  - 1) Evaluates the likelihood of exposure to infectious agents (e.g. Influenza)
  - 2) Chooses appropriate actions and PPE to minimize the risk of exposure to the infectious agent

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## Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI): Signs and Symptoms (Adult)

ILI

### Adult:

- Acute onset of NEW COUGH or change in existing cough
- **PLUS one or more of the following:**
- Fever ( $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$  on arrival or by history)
- Sore throat
- Joint pain
- Muscle aches
- Severe exhaustion

In adults 65 and older, fever may not be prominent

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## Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI): Signs and Symptoms (Pediatric)

ILI

### Pediatric:

Acute onset of any of the following symptoms:

- Cough
- Runny nose
- Sneezing
- With or without fever

In children under five years of age:

- Fever may not be prominent
- Gastrointestinal symptoms may be present

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## Level of Precautions Matrix

Patient Clinical Status and Source Control Capability	Physical Setting and Level of Patient Interaction				
	No Patient Interaction Non clinical	No Direct or Indirect Patient Interaction	Indirect Contact	Direct Patient Interaction	Direct Patient Interaction with AGMP
Recovered from Influenza	I	I	II	II	II
Influenza and Compliant or Weak Cough and Not Compliant	I	I	II	III	IV
Influenza and forceful cough and not compliant	I	I	II	IV	IV
Influenza and AGMP	I	I	II	IV	IV

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## Personal Protective Equipment Recommended for the Level of Precautions for Pandemic Influenza

	Hand hygiene	Respiratory hygiene	Respirator	Mask	Eye Protection	Gown	Gloves
Level I	Yes	Yes	No Patient Contact – Not Recommended				
Level II	Yes	Yes	No, Except as per Additional Precautions*	As Per Routine Practices			
Level III	Yes	Yes	No, Except as per Additional Precautions*	Yes	Yes	As Per Routine Practices	
Level IV	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	As Per Routine Practices	

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## Infection Control Routine Practices

Key elements for preventing ILI transmission:

- Hand Hygiene
- Respiratory Hygiene
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

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## Additional Precautions

Direct patient interaction:

- Within 2 metres of a patient/client/resident who has ILI or confirmed Influenza  
(Does not refer to patients who have recovered from influenza)
- Follow Contact and Modified Droplet Precautions
  - Wear gloves, gown, eye protection/face shield and a procedure/surgical mask or N95 respirator.

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## Compliance with Respiratory Hygiene

Compliance means that the patient/client/resident who has ILI or confirmed Influenza:

- Coughs/sneezes into tissue or sleeve followed by hand hygiene
- OR**
- Wears a procedure/surgical mask

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## Procedure/Surgical Mask

To be worn:

- During direct interaction within 2 metres of a patient/client/resident who has ILI or confirmed Influenza and
  - is compliant with respiratory hygiene or
  - has a weak cough and is not compliant with respiratory hygiene

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**CONTACT AND MODIFIED DROPLET PRECAUTIONS**  
to be used in addition to Routine Practices

			
<p><b>PATIENT PLACEMENT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single room preferred</li> <li>Maintain a distance of 2 metres between patients sharing a room</li> </ul>	<p><b>MASK / N95 RESPIRATOR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use procedural mask when in room of patient unless another mask</li> <li>Use a N95 respirator for non-surgical breathing, coughing patients and for all medical procedures, e.g. patient education, counseling, vital signs, vital procedures, medication, bronchoscopy, CPR, NP tasks, etc.</li> </ul>	<p><b>EYE PROTECTION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wear a mask or N95 respirator in work, not protection of face, until mask that also no worn by all patient care activities</li> <li>Personal contact does not provide adequate protection</li> </ul>	<p><b>GOWN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For direct contact of clothing of healthcare with patient or patient's environment</li> </ul>
			
<p><b>GLOVES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wear non-sterile gloves on entry into patient's room or bed space</li> </ul>	<p><b>HAND HYGIENE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perform hand contact with patient</li> <li>Perform hand hygiene after removing PPE</li> </ul>	<p><b>PATIENT CARE EQUIPMENT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exclusive to the patient or client and disinfect after use</li> </ul>	<p><b>PATIENT TRANSPORT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transport to essential patients only</li> <li>Patients access route during transport</li> <li>Notify receiving department</li> </ul>

NOTES: Discuss precautions with nursing staff before entering patient's room.  
ENR/106/10; 10/01/11; 10/01/11; Change soap hand, visible and cleaning solution after leaving room or bedside.  
Revised: October 1, 2011

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