

# Respiratory Illness Outbreak Management

Long-Term Care, Designated/Non-Designated Supportive Living, Hospice

Version 1 | 09/19/2022

## Manage a Confirmed Outbreak

All staff share the responsibility for keeping residents safe. The following actions should be completed once a respiratory outbreak has been confirmed. This checklist provides general measures only - always refer to the corresponding section in the guide for detailed recommendations. When applicable, follow site-specific protocols.



[Outbreak Guide for LTC and DSL](#)  
[Outbreak Guide for Non-DSL](#)

Section	Guide Section
<b>1. Infection Prevention Control Measures</b>	<b>Guide Section</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor to identify newly symptomatic residents at the site – see Table A.	2.1/3.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Isolate and collect swabs for all residents with symptoms in Table A.	2.1/3.1
<input type="checkbox"/> Place <a href="#">signage</a> outside the room of symptomatic residents alerting HCW/staff and visitors of precautions required.	3.1
<input type="checkbox"/> Conduct a <a href="#">Point of Care Risk Assessment</a> prior to every resident interaction.	5.1
<input type="checkbox"/> Wear continuous mask and eye protection in all resident care areas. Additional PPE may be required based on a <a href="#">Point of Care Risk Assessment</a> .	5.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Perform strict hand hygiene in accordance with <a href="#">AHS Hand Hygiene Policy</a> or site policy.	3.1
<b>2. Administrative Measures</b>	<b>Guide Section</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Notify appropriate HCW/staff/departments within the site/facility.	5.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Advise HCW/staff of relevant work recommendations and/or restrictions.	5.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Place <a href="#">outbreak signage</a> at the entrance of the facility/unit.	5.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Inform residents' families/guardians/agents of the facility outbreak status.	5.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Report daily using <i>Facility CDC Outbreak Daily Report Portal</i> (and to IPC as per Zone process).	2.1/7.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure adequate availability of all supplies.	5.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Assign HCW/staff to care for asymptomatic residents before symptomatic residents whenever possible.	3.12
<input type="checkbox"/> Alert transport staff and the receiving site to put in place appropriate precautions, if a symptomatic resident is attending another site for a medical appointment.	5.3
<b>3. Resident restrictions</b>	<b>Guide Section</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Isolate residents who develop symptoms (as per Table A) or who or test positive, in their rooms with appropriate precautions.	7.3
<input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate essential medical treatment for symptomatic and positive residents in their rooms when possible.	7.3
<b>4. Group/Social Activities and Other Events</b>	<b>Guide Section</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Permit asymptomatic residents to take part in daily activities.	7.3

- Follow Public Health Outbreak Team direction on whether to continue with routine group activities. 7.7
- Continue personal services (e.g., hair styling) with service provider wearing a mask and eye protection. Recommend the asymptomatic resident receiving the service wear a mask when possible. 3.7

## 5. Nourishment Areas/Sharing of Food Guide Section

- Deliver meals to symptomatic and positive residents in their rooms. 3.8
- Use single serve items and discontinue family style dining as recommended by the Public Health Outbreak Team. 7.8

## 6. Visitors and Designated Support Person(s) (DSP) Guide Section

- Follow any visitor restrictions as recommended by the Public Health Outbreak Team. 5.10
- Recommend visitors/DSP wear a mask while at the facility. 3.10
- Discourage symptomatic visitors/DSP from visiting residents. 3.10
- Advise visitors/DSP of the importance of hand hygiene. 3.10
- Advise visitors/DSP of the potential risk of exposure to a symptomatic resident and ensure the use of additional PPE. 3.10

## 7. HCW/Staff Outbreak Control Measures (including volunteers, students, physicians) Guide Section

- Advise HCW/staff to monitor for signs and symptoms of illness and to not attend work if symptomatic. 7.12
- Ask HCW/staff to report to manager/designate of any symptoms and to not attend work until well enough to resume normal activities and fever free for 24 hours without use of fever reducing medication (whichever is longer). 7.12
- Advise HCW/staff who develop symptoms at work to put on a mask and leave the workplace as soon as possible. 3.12

## 8. Specimen Collection Guide Section

- Follow Public Health Outbreak Team testing recommendations for symptomatic residents. 7.13
- Ensure proper collection, handling and labelling (including EI #) on all specimens. 7.13

## 9. Enhanced Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Guide Section

- Follow recommendations in [Principles for Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection](#). 3.14
- Clean and disinfect low touch surfaces at least once per day and high touch areas at least twice per day. 3.14
- Use a 'wipe twice' procedure (a 2-step process) to clean and then disinfect surfaces. 3.14
- Conduct a thorough enhanced cleaning when the outbreak is closed. 10

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

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