RISK ASSESSMENT FOR ADMISSION/DISCHARGE/TRANSFER DURING OUTBREAKS

Using the CURRENT location of the patient/resident, these guidelines help to assess whether a Risk Assessment is required during outbreak investigations where the Medical Officer of Health has recommended restrictions as one of the control measures as per the province-wide Outbreak Guidelines. The designated Outbreak Management Lead can help provide more information for situation-specific events that fall outside of the categories listed below.

Criteria to be met prior to considering transfer/admission of patients/residents:

- Has the outbreak only been recently declared/are the recommended control measures not completely implemented/are test results pending/is it still within initial incubation period of organism? If Yes, do not transfer.
- Are the number of cases increasing despite control measures being in place? If Yes, do not transfer.
- Does the outbreak organism cause severe clinical outcomes (e.g. IGAS, verotoxigenic E coli)? If Yes, do not transfer.
- Is the resident to be transferred back to CC/SL coming from an outbreak site and symptomatic/infectious? If Yes, do not transfer. Wait until no longer infectious.
- Is the resident to be transferred back to CC/SL coming from GI outbreak site, but asymptomatic? If Yes, consider no transfer until outbreak over.

Discharging/Transferring Site completes Patient/Resident Demographic Information AND Discharging/Transferring Unit/Site/Facility section.
Receiving Unit/Site/Facility completes Receiving Unit/Site/Facility section (this can be done by phone or fax in collaboration with the discharging site).

***Zones then proceed using one of the options below based on Zone-specific processes***

- When all sections are complete, the discharging site reviews with attending physician for approval as below. OR
- Discharging site ensures all sections of the form are complete and sends to MOH for review as per Zone processes.

If:
- Any required action or measure cannot be completed OR
- attending physician does not approve transfer, OR
- patient/resident or guardian informed consent is not obtained, OR
- receiving site is not in agreement of transfer

DO NOT proceed with transfer

Proceed with transfer

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