
2015-2016 Community Influenza Surveillance Report Update of Current Status November 18, 2015

Overall assessment

Influenza activity in Middlesex-London remains low.

Current Local Activity

Between November 8th and 14th, there were no laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza reported to the Middlesex-London Health Unit. Since September 1, 2015, a total of three laboratory-confirmed influenza A cases have been reported.

No influenza outbreaks have been declared since September 1st, 2015.

Appendix A provides more details about laboratory-based influenza activity indicators, as well as other local indicators of respiratory illness.

Useful Websites

- The latest Ontario Respiratory Pathogen Bulletin (ORPB), issued by Public Health Ontario (PHO), is available at <http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/ServicesAndTools/SurveillanceServices/Pages/Ontario-Respiratory-Virus-Bulletin.aspx>
- The latest FluWatch report, issued by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), is available at <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/>.
- To find a free flu shot clinic near you, visit the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's "Find a Flu Shot Clinic" web page at <http://www.ontario.ca/page/get-flu-shot/>.

Appendix A

Summary of Community Influenza Surveillance Indicators for Middlesex-London November 18, 2015

Table 1: Summary of laboratory-based influenza activity indicators, Middlesex-London and Ontario, 2015-2016 influenza surveillance season

Indicator	Reporting Period	Number Reported: <i>Current Reporting Period</i>	Number Reported: <i>Year to Date (from September 1, 2015)</i>	Recent Trends
Laboratory-confirmed cases¹	Nov. 8-14	Influenza A – 0 cases Influenza B – 0 cases	Influenza A – 3 cases Influenza B – 0 cases	
Influenza sub-types¹	Nov. 8-14	Influenza A(H3) – 0 cases Influenza A not subtyped – 0 cases	Influenza A(H3) – 2 cases Influenza A not subtyped – 1 case	All influenza A strains subtyped to date (2/3) have been influenza A(H3).
Hospitalizations¹	Nov. 8-14	0	2	
Deaths¹	Nov. 8-14	0	0	
Influenza outbreaks in long-term care homes/retirement homes/acute care	Nov. 8-14	0	0	
Percentage of samples that are positive for influenza (Ontario)²	Nov. 1-7	Influenza A – 0.8% positivity Influenza B – 0.0% positivity	N/A	Influenza A: Similar to 0.4% positivity reported the previous week (Oct. 25-31). Influenza B: Same as 0.0% positivity reported the previous week (Oct. 25-31).

Notes:

1 Numbers are subject to change week by week due to the retrospective nature of reporting.

2 Public Health Ontario, Ontario Respiratory Pathogen Bulletin 2015-2016

Table 2: Summary of community-based respiratory illness indicators, Middlesex-London, 2015-2016 influenza surveillance season

Indicator	Reporting Period	Number Reported: <i>Current Reporting Period</i>	Recent Trends
Hospital emergency room reports regarding the percentage of patients with fever and respiratory illness	Nov. 8-14	An average of 6.3% of patients presented with fever and respiratory symptoms. The proportion was highest at the paediatric emergency department, where 13.3% of patients presented with a fever and respiratory symptoms.	Similar to 6.8% reported the previous week (Nov. 1-7). Lower than 15.0% reported the previous week (Nov. 1-7).
Absence reports from elementary schools (i.e., absenteeism > 10%)	Nov. 9-13	Six elementary schools from one school board reported an average absenteeism rate exceeding 10%.	Higher than the previous week (Nov. 2-6), when two schools reported increased absenteeism.
Sentinel x-ray provider – newly identified bronchopneumonia cases	Nov. 2-7	An average of 7.1% of chest x-rays performed were newly diagnosed bronchopneumonia cases.	Higher than 6.2% reported the previous week (Oct. 26-31)

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- London Health Sciences Centre
- London X-Ray Associates
- St. Joseph's Health Care London
- Thames Valley District School Board