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## 2015-2016 Community Influenza Surveillance Report Update of Current Status December 8, 2015

### Overall assessment

Influenza activity in Middlesex-London remains low.

### Current Local Activity

Between November 29<sup>th</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup>, 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 and one influenza B case have been reported.

No influenza outbreaks have been declared since September 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 December 8, 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
<b>Laboratory-confirmed cases<sup>1</sup></b>	Nov. 29-Dec. 5	Influenza A – 0 cases Influenza B – 0 cases	Influenza A – 3 cases Influenza B – 1 case	<b>Lower</b> compared to the previous week (Nov. 22-28) when one influenza B case was reported.
<b>Influenza sub-types<sup>1</sup></b>	Nov. 29-Dec. 5	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).
<b>Hospitalizations<sup>1</sup></b>	Nov. 29-Dec. 5	0	2	
<b>Deaths<sup>1</sup></b>	Nov. 29-Dec. 5	0	0	
<b>Influenza outbreaks in long-term care homes/retirement homes/acute care</b>	Nov. 29-Dec. 5	0	0	
<b>Percentage of samples that are positive for influenza (Ontario)<sup>2</sup></b>	Nov. 22-28	Influenza A – 0.5% positivity Influenza B – 0.2% positivity	N/A	Influenza A: <b>Lower</b> compared to 1.3% positivity reported the previous week (Nov. 15-21). Influenza B: <b>Similar</b> compared to 0.0% positivity reported the previous week (Nov. 15-21).

**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
<b>Hospital emergency room reports regarding the percentage of patients with fever and respiratory illness</b>	Nov. 29-Dec. 5	An average of 6.5% of patients presented with fever and respiratory symptoms.  The proportion was highest at the paediatric emergency department, where 15.7% of patients presented with a fever and respiratory symptoms.	<b>Similar</b> to 6.1% reported the previous week (Nov. 22-28).  <b>Same</b> as 15.7% reported the previous week (Nov. 22-28).
<b>Absence reports from elementary schools (i.e., absenteeism &gt; 10%)</b>	Nov. 30-Dec. 4	Three elementary schools from one school board reported an average absenteeism rate exceeding 10%.	<b>Same</b> as the previous week (Nov. 23-27), when three schools reported increased absenteeism.
<b>Sentinel x-ray provider – newly identified bronchopneumonia cases</b>	Nov. 30-Dec. 5	An average of 4.0% of chest x-rays performed were newly diagnosed bronchopneumonia cases.	<b>Lower</b> than 5.9% reported the previous week (Nov. 23-28).

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