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## 2015-2016 Community Influenza Surveillance Report Update of Current Status January 19, 2016

### Overall assessment

Influenza activity in Middlesex-London is increasing.

### Current Local Activity

From January 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016, six laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza (five influenza A and one influenza B) were reported to the Middlesex-London Health Unit, of whom three were hospitalized. Since September 1, 2015, there has been a total of 13 laboratory-confirmed influenza cases (11 influenza A and two influenza B) reported in London and Middlesex County.

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://dsol-smed.phac-aspc.gc.ca/dsol-smed/fluwatch/fluwatch.phtml?lang=e>
- 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 January 19, 2016

**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>	Jan. 10-16	Influenza A – 5 cases Influenza B – 1 case	Influenza A – 11 cases Influenza B – 2 cases	<b>Higher</b> compared to the previous week (Jan. 3-9) when one case of influenza was reported.
<b>Influenza sub-types<sup>1</sup></b>	Jan. 10-16	Influenza A(H3) – 0 cases Influenza A (H1N1)pdm09 – 4 cases Influenza A not subtyped – 0 cases	Influenza A(H3) – 3 cases Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 – 6 cases Influenza A not subtyped – 2 cases	
<b>Hospitalizations<sup>1</sup></b>	Jan. 10-16	3	5	<b>Higher</b> compared to the previous week (Jan. 3-9) when no hospitalizations were reported.
<b>Deaths<sup>1</sup></b>	Jan. 10-16	0	0	
<b>Influenza outbreaks in long-term care homes/retirement homes/acute care</b>	Jan. 10-16	0	0	
<b>Percentage of samples that are positive for influenza (Ontario)<sup>2</sup></b>	Jan. 3-9	Influenza A – 4.3% positivity Influenza B – 0.3% positivity	N/A	Influenza A: <b>Higher</b> compared to 2.6% positivity reported the previous week (Dec. 27-Jan. 2).  Influenza B: <b>Similar</b> compared to 0.4% positivity reported the previous week (Dec. 27-Jan. 2).

**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 department and urgent care centre reports regarding the percentage of patients with fever and respiratory illness</b>	Jan. 10-16	An average of 6.4% of patients presented with fever and respiratory symptoms.  The proportion was highest at the paediatric emergency department, where an average of 19.8% of patients presented with a fever and respiratory symptoms.	<b>Similar</b> to 6.7% reported the previous week (Jan. 3-9).  <b>Higher</b> than 17.0% reported the previous week (Jan. 3-9).
<b>Absence reports from elementary schools (i.e., absenteeism &gt; 10%)</b>	Jan. 11-15	26 elementary schools from one school board reported an average absenteeism rate exceeding 10%.	<b>Higher</b> than the previous week (Jan. 4-8), when nine schools reported increased absenteeism.  <b>Please note:</b> Increased absenteeism in the current reporting period may have been influenced by weather-related transportation cancellations.
<b>Sentinel x-ray provider – newly identified bronchopneumonia cases</b>	Jan. 11-16	An average of 3.6% of chest x-rays performed were newly diagnosed bronchopneumonia cases.	<b>Similar</b> to 4.1% reported the previous week (Jan. 4-9).

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