
2015-2016 Community Influenza Surveillance Report Update of Current Status February 9, 2016

Overall assessment

Influenza activity in Middlesex-London is higher compared to previous reporting week.

Current Local Activity

From January 31st to February 6th, 2016, ten laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza (eight influenza A and two influenza B) were reported to the Middlesex-London Health Unit, of whom two were hospitalized. Since September 1st, 2015, there has been a total of 32 laboratory-confirmed influenza cases (27 of influenza A and five of influenza B) reported in London and Middlesex County.

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://healthycanadians.gc.ca/diseases-conditions-maladies-affections/disease-maladie/flu-grippe/surveillance/fluwatch-reports-rapports-surveillance-influenza-eng.php>
- 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 February 9, 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
Laboratory-confirmed cases¹	Jan. 31-Feb. 6	Influenza A – 8 cases Influenza B – 2 cases	Influenza A – 27 cases Influenza B – 5 cases	Higher compared to the previous week (Jan. 24-30) when seven cases of influenza were reported.
Influenza sub-types¹	Jan. 31-Feb. 6	Subtyping Influenza A(H3) – 0 cases Influenza A (H1N1)pdm09–4 cases Influenza A not subtyped – 4 cases Strain typing A/California/07/09-like-1 case	Influenza A(H3) – 3 cases Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09– 13 cases Influenza A not subtyped – 11 cases A/California/07/09-like- 2 cases	
Hospitalizations¹	Jan. 31-Feb. 6	2	12	Lower compared to the previous week (Jan. 24-30) when three hospitalizations were reported.
Deaths¹	Jan. 31-Feb. 6	0	0	
Influenza outbreaks in long-term care homes/retirement homes/acute care	Jan. 31-Feb. 6	0	0	
Percentage of samples that are positive for influenza (Ontario)²	Jan. 24-30	Influenza A – 10.3% positivity Influenza B – 1.5% positivity	N/A	Influenza A: Higher compared to 6.6% positivity reported the previous week (Jan. 17-23). Influenza B: Similar compared to 1.1% positivity reported the previous week (Jan. 17-23).

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 department and urgent care centre reports regarding the percentage of patients with fever and respiratory illness	Jan. 31-Feb. 6	An average of 8.7% of patients presented with fever and respiratory symptoms. The proportion was highest at the paediatric emergency department, where an average of 27.0% of patients presented with a fever and respiratory symptoms.	Higher than 8.1% reported the previous week (Jan. 24-30). Higher than 23.2% reported the previous week (Jan. 24-30).
Absence reports from elementary schools (i.e., absenteeism > 10%)	Feb. 1-5	23 elementary schools from one school board reported an average absenteeism rate exceeding 10%.	Higher than the previous week (Jan. 25-29), when 22 schools reported increased absenteeism.
Sentinel x-ray provider – newly identified bronchopneumonia cases	Feb. 1-6	An average of 3.9% of chest x-rays performed were newly diagnosed bronchopneumonia cases.	Similar to 4.6% reported the previous week (Jan. 25-30).

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