
2016-2017 Community Influenza Surveillance Report Update of Current Status December 6, 2016

Overall assessment

The current level of influenza activity in Middlesex-London is low.

Current Local Activity

Between November 27th and December 3rd, one case of laboratory-confirmed influenza A, in an individual who was also hospitalized, was reported to the Middlesex-London Health Unit. No outbreaks of influenza were declared in facilities in Middlesex-London.

Since September 1, 2016, nine laboratory-confirmed influenza A cases have been reported. Six out of nine influenza samples have been subtyped and of those, all six have been identified as influenza A(H3).

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 Virus Bulletin, 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 6, 2016

Table 1: Summary of laboratory-based influenza activity indicators, Middlesex-London and Ontario, 2016-2017 influenza surveillance season

Indicator	Reporting Period	Number Reported: <i>Current Reporting Period</i>	Number Reported: <i>Year to Date (from September 1, 2016)</i>	Recent Trends
Laboratory-confirmed cases¹	Nov. 27-Dec. 3	Influenza A – 1 case Influenza B – 0 cases	Influenza A – 9 cases Influenza B – 0 cases	Higher compared to the previous week (Nov. 20-26) when no influenza cases were reported. Please note that the week in which cases are reported does not necessarily reflect the date of onset of illness.
Influenza sub-types¹	Nov. 27-Dec. 3	Influenza A(H3) – 0 cases Influenza A not subtyped – 1 cases	Influenza A(H3) – 6 cases Influenza A not subtyped – 3 cases	All influenza A strains subtyped to date have been influenza A(H3).
Hospitalizations¹	Nov. 27-Dec. 3	1	6	Higher compared to the previous week (Nov. 20-26) when no hospitalizations were reported.
Deaths¹	Nov. 27-Dec. 3	0	0	
Influenza outbreaks in long-term care homes/retirement homes/acute care	Nov. 27-Dec. 3	0	1	Same compared to the previous week (Nov. 20-26) when no influenza outbreaks were declared.
Percentage of samples that are positive for influenza (Ontario)²	Nov. 20-26	Influenza A – 3.2% positivity Influenza B – 0.1% positivity	N/A	Influenza A: Higher compared to 2.3% reported in the previous week (Nov. 13-19). Influenza B: Similar compared to 0.2% positivity reported in the previous week (Nov. 13-19).

Notes:

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

2 Public Health Ontario, Ontario Respiratory Virus Bulletin 2016-2017

Table 2: Summary of community-based respiratory illness indicators, Middlesex-London, 2016-2017 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. 27-Dec. 3	<p>An average of 7.5% of patients presented with fever and respiratory symptoms.</p> <p>The proportion was highest at the pediatric emergency department, where 20.3% of patients presented with a fever and respiratory symptoms.</p>	<p>Similar compared to 7.0% reported the previous week (Nov. 20-26).</p> <p>Lower than 21.2% reported the previous week (Nov. 20-26).</p>
Absence reports from elementary schools (i.e., absenteeism > 10%)	Nov. 28-Dec. 2	Sixteen elementary schools from one school board reported average absenteeism (due to all causes) exceeding 10%.	Same as the previous week (Nov.21-25), when sixteen schools reported increased absenteeism.
Sentinel x-ray provider – newly identified bronchopneumonia cases	Nov. 28-Dec. 3	Data not available.	

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