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## 2016-2017 Community Influenza Surveillance Report Update of Current Status November 29, 2016

### Overall assessment

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

### Current Local Activity

Between November 20<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, no cases of influenza were reported and no outbreaks of influenza were declared in facilities in Middlesex London.

Since September 1, 2016, eight laboratory-confirmed influenza A cases have been reported. Six out of eight 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 November 29, 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
<b>Laboratory-confirmed cases<sup>1</sup></b>	Nov. 20-26	Influenza A – 0 cases Influenza B – 0 cases	Influenza A – 8 cases Influenza B – 0 cases	<b>Same</b> compared to the previous week (Nov. 13-19) when no influenza cases were reported.  <b>Please note that the week in which cases are reported does not necessarily reflect the date of onset of illness.</b>
<b>Influenza sub-types<sup>1</sup></b>	Nov. 20-26	Influenza A(H3) – 0 cases Influenza A not subtyped – 0 cases	Influenza A(H3) – 6 cases Influenza A not subtyped – 2 cases	All influenza A strains subtyped to date have been influenza A(H3).
<b>Hospitalizations<sup>1</sup></b>	Nov. 20-26	0	5	<b>Same</b> compared to the previous week (Nov. 13-19) when no hospitalizations were reported.
<b>Deaths<sup>1</sup></b>	Nov. 20-26	0	0	
<b>Influenza outbreaks in long-term care homes/retirement homes/acute care</b>	Nov. 20-26	0	1	<b>Same</b> compared to the previous week (Nov. 13-19) when no influenza outbreaks were declared.
<b>Percentage of samples that are positive for influenza (Ontario)<sup>2</sup></b>	Nov. 13-19	Influenza A – 2.3% positivity Influenza B – 0.2% positivity	N/A	Influenza A: <b>Similar</b> compared to 2.7% reported in the previous week (Nov. 6-12).  Influenza B: <b>Similar</b> compared to 0.1% positivity reported in the previous week (Nov. 6-12).

**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
<b>Hospital emergency room reports regarding the percentage of patients with fever and respiratory illness</b>	Nov. 20-26	An average of 7.0% of patients presented with fever and respiratory symptoms.  The proportion was highest at the pediatric emergency department, where 21.2% of patients presented with a fever and respiratory symptoms.	<b>Similar</b> compared to 7.3% reported the previous week (Nov. 13-19).  <b>Lower</b> than 22.0% reported the previous week (Nov. 13-19).
<b>Absence reports from elementary schools (i.e., absenteeism &gt; 10%)</b>	Nov. 21-25	Sixteen elementary schools from one school board reported average absenteeism (due to all causes) exceeding 10%.	<b>Higher</b> than the previous week (Nov.14-17), when six schools reported increased absenteeism.
<b>Sentinel x-ray provider – newly identified bronchopneumonia cases</b>	Nov. 21-26	Of chest x-rays performed, 4.5% were newly diagnosed bronchopneumonia cases.	<b>Lower</b> than 5.6% reported the previous week (Nov 14-17).

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