

## Emergency Dept./ Urgent Care Centre Infection Control Measures

Date: Thursday, November 15, 2018

To: Central Zone Emergency Dept./Urgent Care Centre Physicians and Staff

From: Dr. Digby Horne, Medical Officer of Health – Central Zone

Subject: Emergency Dept./Urgent Care Centre Infection Control Measures: Travellers;

Influenza-like-illness; and Point-of-Care-Risk-Assessment

## **Travelers:**

In response to the ongoing Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a revised triage/IPC measures algorithm for patients with possible Viral Hemorrhagic Fever has been developed: www.ahs.ca/assets/healthinfo/ipc/if-hp-ipc-ebola-triage.pdf.

Clicking anywhere in the box in the algorithm, pictured below, will link to Government of Canada travel health notices, alternately available at <a href="https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/health-safety/travel-health-notices">https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/health-safety/travel-health-notices</a>.

Traveled in past 21 days to any countries where Viral Hemorrhagic Fever (VHF) is circulating\*\*

\*\*Review Travel Health Notices
https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/health-safety/travel-health-notices

These notices can be sorted according to country, date of issue, or risk level. To sort by country, enter this in the "Filter items" box at the top of the webpage.

## Influenza-like-illness:

During the upcoming influenza season, assistance in determining appropriate IPC measures for patients with influenza-like-illness can be obtained from a respiratory illness algorithm: <a href="https://www.ahs.ca/assets/healthinfo/ipc/hi-ipc-respiratory-additional-precautions-assessment.pdf">www.ahs.ca/assets/healthinfo/ipc/hi-ipc-respiratory-additional-precautions-assessment.pdf</a>.

## Point-of-Care Risk-Assessment (PCRA):

A PCRA should be done with every patient to determine the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) to be worn by staff. The assessment should consider the planned care/interaction, signs and symptoms of the patient, and the environment in which the care/interaction will occur: <a href="https://www.ahs.ca/assets/healthinfo/ipc/hi-ipc-acute-care-pcra.pdf">www.ahs.ca/assets/healthinfo/ipc/hi-ipc-acute-care-pcra.pdf</a>.

All three algorithms referred to above are posted on the AHS external Infection Control webpage: <a href="https://www.ahs.ca/info/page6410.aspx">www.ahs.ca/info/page6410.aspx</a> [Home>Information For>Health Professionals>Infection Prevention & Control; see Quick Links tab].

Thank you for your attention and assistance.