

Outbreak Notification Algorithm

Does the client meet case definition?

Respiratory case definition

Acute onset of NEW cough or change in an existing cough **plus** one or more of the following:

- Fever*
- Sore throat
- Joint pain
- Muscle aches
- Severe exhaustion

***Note:** Older adults have a lower basal body temperature therefore fever may be present when the temperature is greater than 1.5° Celsius above baseline.

In persons under 5 or 65 and older, fever may not be prominent. In children under age 5, gastrointestinal symptoms may also be present

Gastrointestinal case definition

At least **one** of the following criteria must be met and not be attributed to another cause (Clostridium difficile diarrhea, medication, laxatives, diet or prior medical condition etc.):

- 2 or more episodes of diarrhea (loose or watery stools) in a 24hr period, above what is normally expected for that individual **or**
- 2 or more episodes of vomiting in a 24hr period **OR**
- 1 or more episodes of vomiting **and** diarrhea in a 24hr period **or**
- Positive stool culture of a known enteric pathogen **and** at least one symptom compatible with a gastrointestinal (GI) infection (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, tenderness) **OR**
- 1 episode of bloody diarrhea

- Isolate case and use additional precautions as appropriate
- Monitor for additional cases

Does the facility meet outbreak definition?

Respiratory outbreak definition

2 or more cases of influenza like illness (ILI) within a **7 day** period, with a common epidemiological link (same location, unit, floor, care giver, and evidence of health care acquired transmission within the unit of facility). There is no requirement for a laboratory confirmed case.

NOTE: Even a single case of ILI is reportable to Public Health for enhanced monitoring, surveillance and recommendations.

Gastrointestinal outbreak definition

2 or more cases of GI illness within a **48hr** onset period, with a common epidemiological link (same location, care giver and evidence of health care acquired transmission within a facility).

CALL INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL

During regular business hours

403-388-6169 (SW)

403-529-8809 (SE)

After hours/holidays

1-800-661-1700

(24 hour on call through RAAPID)

Infection Prevention & Control, South Zone
 Phone: SW 403-388-6169 | SE 403-529-8809
 Email: ahs.sz.ipc@ahs.ca | Website: www.ahs.ca

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