

Fraser Health pandemic preparedness

Last revised: April 2006

Pandemic Influenza Health Services Planning & Implementation Project

Working definitions following from patient/resident assessment flow chart

1. Assessment Centre: A triage facility, preferably located close to an acute care facility (but will also be established in designated buildings within the community), managed by Fraser Health and operated by Fraser Health staff (i.e., registered nurses, volunteers) for the purposes of streamlining the assessment of residents who may present with influenza-like illness (ILI) during the pandemic, and concluding the type of care/support required for these residents (i.e. acute care, self-care, social support).

These centres will also ensure that screening of possible pandemic patients occurs outside of health care facilities, thus reducing the chance of viral spread to hospitals, long-term care facilities, etc.

2. Screening Criteria: Standards applied at the assessment centre level by FH staff to discern whether the resident presenting with ILI-symptoms requires further care. Initial screening questions include:

- a. Do you have a new or worsening cough, shortness of breath or other respiratory symptoms?
- b. Do you have a fever?

If the resident meets the key screening criteria, a more formal assessment will take place, under the observation of a Fraser Health staff member and/or Fraser Health volunteer (e.g. Assessment/Disposition Form). The following definitions outline a number of referral options available for those requiring observation/treatment during the pandemic.

3. Acute Care Influenza Site: A pre-assigned ward within an acute care facility designated to treat pandemic influenza patients ONLY. This area of the hospital will be “closed” from the other “clean” areas of the facility to allow for the continued treatment of non-pandemic influenza patients in the hospital. Stringent infection control measures will be a mandatory requirement for these wards.
4. Influenza Alternative Care Site: A pre-designated facility within the community, managed and operated by Fraser Health staff, to provide treatment and care to sub-acute or less severe pandemic influenza patients. Fraser Health will provide supplies and staff for these facilities, while the municipalities and Fraser Health will complete the selection of these buildings for use during a pandemic.
5. Local Social Support Services: Services provided by municipal staff and/or volunteer/non-government organizations to residents in the community who are either recovering from the

pandemic virus and/or who have been discharged out of the health care system and/or do not require care. These services may include:

- a. Provision of information regarding community services and participating organizations
- b. Telephone check-ins
- c. Transportation (as required/available)
- d. Nutritional support

6. Observation/Support Services: Same as above.

7. Self-care Package: Materials developed by Fraser Health for patients/residents who no longer/do not require traditional health care, and/or who have been discharged from a health care facility to return home (these materials will also be available to the general public online).

This package of information will provide additional information regarding pandemic influenza, how to care for oneself and others during the pandemic, and which services will be available to them, both in the community and from Fraser Health throughout the pandemic.