



Message from the Provincial Health Officer

At the request of B.C.'s physicians, this web resource has been established to provide a centralised and ongoing source of current information about the emerging issues surrounding the novel H1N1 flu virus.

Over the past few years, our experience with communicable disease management has shown that, as with any evolving situation, there is debate in the public health and clinical communities as to the best practises required to minimize mortality and morbidity. Many experts from B.C., Canada and around the world publish guidelines and advice, some of which changes over time with new information and may appear to be contradictory.

In B.C. we work closely with our partners, including the Public Health Agency of Canada, the BC Centre for Disease Control, health authorities, government ministries, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC, the BC Medical Association and HealthLink BC to provide accurate and timely information for providers and the public. The Office of the PHO has developed an ongoing process, including the establishment of formalized working groups, for expert review of the materials that will be posted to this site.

Throughout the influenza season we will update and revise this information as necessary and also provide access to provincial- and health authority-specific information, including:

- Epidemiology
- Clinical impacts (hospitalizations, service changes)
- Pertinent information from the Medical Services Commission

You are encouraged to [sign up](#) to receive notification when significant updates or additions are available.

Sincerely,

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