



# Public Health Bulletin

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## *Heartland Health Region*

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March 27, 2017

For Immediate Release

To Regional Staff and Physicians, Heartland Health Region

From: Dr. David Torr, Consulting Medical Health Officer

### Respiratory Illness in Heartland Health Region

A respiratory illness outbreak has been declared in the **Davidson Health Centre- Long Term Care**, effective **March 24, 2017**. Currently the **Davidson Health Centre-Long Term Care** is the only facility in the region with Respiratory Illness outbreak precautions in place. Specimens have been sent to the lab to identify the cause. Staff has been working diligently in applying optimal infection prevention and control precautions which include:

- Visitor restrictions are in place and visitor restriction notices have been posted at patient doorways.
- Patients or residents who are ill with respiratory symptoms have been placed on respiratory precautions and will be restricted to their rooms until free from symptoms.
- Appropriate medication treatment or prophylaxis has been initiated.
- Admissions, transfers and discharges are affected and will be triaged.

All staff need to remain vigilant in preventing infections in our facilities and communities, as well as the following:

- If you are ill, stay at home, contact your doctor if symptoms are severe.
- Cover your cough,
- Wash your hands thoroughly, properly and frequently, particularly before and after patient/client care, washroom use, blowing your nose, and after touching surfaces.
- It is not too late to get your flu shot. Call your local public health office to schedule a time to get one.

For more information, contact:

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