



TO: Peterborough City and County hospitals and long-term care homes

RE: Health care worker influenza immunization data collection and reporting for Ontario hospitals and long-term care homes during the 2017/2018 influenza season

DATE: September 2017

This letter is to provide information about this year's health care worker (HCW) influenza immunization reporting process for public hospitals and long-term care homes (LTCHs).

As you are aware, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (the ministry) has been collecting seasonal influenza immunization rates for HCWs of LTCHs since 1999 and for hospitals since 2000. Last year, the median health care worker influenza immunization rates for hospitals and long term cares homes in Ontario were 53% and 72% respectively, the same as the previous year.

The deadline for reporting rates remains **December 15, 2017**. Reporting of all employment categories, with the exception of adult students/trainees, is mandatory. Enclosed, please find the following revised influenza immunization reporting forms and supportive educational materials:

- HCW II Coverage Reporting Form;
- Questions and Answers for HCW Influenza Immunization Coverage Reporting.

As in previous years, the aggregated provincial influenza immunization coverage rates of Ontario's HCWs from public hospitals will be published in the *Ontario Respiratory Pathogen Bulletin*. Peterborough Public Health also publishes this data at www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca.

Although seasonal influenza immunization coverage rate collection and reporting under this initiative focuses on HCWs, it is important that influenza immunization strategies implemented by facilities and promote immunization of visitors and family members as part of their overall influenza campaign.

In addition, Peterborough Public Health also encourages facilities to continue supporting other preventative measures, such as hand hygiene, identification of ill patients and barrier precautions, and exclusion of ill staff and visitors.

Questions, visit www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca to review the Q and As or call Letisha Crombie, Administrative Assistant at (705)743-1000, ext. 349 or Marilyn Mitchell, Registered Nurse, at (705)743-1000, ext. 270.