Winter outbreaks (Influenza):

Infection prevention and control preparedness for healthcare facilities

For full policies and procedures, refer to www.sahealth.sa.gov.au





PREPARE

JANUARY

Infection Prevention & Control strategies and staff education including:

- > Hand hygiene
- > Cough etiquette
- > Personal protective equipment (PPE) including mask fit testing

Surveillance systems

- > Check surveillance systems
- > Reporting and monitoring mechanisms

Outbreak governance structure

- > Outbreak team
- > Multi-disciplinary team (i.e. hotel service & cleaning etc)
- > Update contact information and flowcharts

Policy and procedures

- > Check influenza policies and procedures
- National & State guidelines, available at: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/ influenza

FEBRUARY

Response capacity

- > Identify single rooms & bed management plan
- > Check supplies
- > Check staffing

Communication plan & document templates

- > Daily bulletins, briefs & flowcharts
- > Liaise with ED regarding rapid assessment, treat & admission plans (if applicable)

Attend SA Health planning meetings

- > Winter Outbreak
 Preparedness meeting
- > Immunisation Workshop (if applicable)

Patient information

- > Review patient information sheets
- > Partnering with consumers

MARCH

Staff education

- > Influenza outbreak response
- Infection control refresher (e.g. hand hyiene, cough etiquette, PPE)

Admission plan/patient flow

> Review patient journey/ pathways

Review SA Health influenza information & surveillance

- Notifiable information www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/ NotifiableDisease Reporting
- > Surveillance charts www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/ SurveillanceNotifiable Conditions

Influenza prevention initiatives

- > Monitor for any increase in cases
- > Review patient care policy & procedure
- > Deploy influenza equipment/PPE stations

APRIL

RESPOND

Commence vaccination campaign

- > Staff and patients/ residents to commence vaccination
- > Check local advice for exact commencement date

PPE supplies

- > Ensure adequate supplies
- > Ensure adequate storage

Bed management

- > Consider proactive rounding & active case finding
- > Infection control to assist with bed management
- > Isolation of cases

Influenza prevention & control measures

- > Monitor for any increase in cases
- > Respond to cases
- > Communicate actions (e.g. hand hygiene, influenza stations & PPE)

MAY - OCT

Influenza prevention and control measures

- > Influenza prevention & control measures in response to increasing cases (if occurring)
- > Active case finding & control

Policy and procedures

- > Refer to national and state quidelines and resources
- > Continue to respond to cases

Influenza notification

- > Notify the Communicable
- > Disease Control Branch of outbreaks Tel: 1300 232 272

Infection control advice

- > Seek advice from your local Infection Prevention & Control Coordinator or
- > Infection Control Service Tel: (08) 7425 7161

EVALUATE

NOV - DEC

Evaluation

Evaluate effectiveness of infection prevention & control measures

Analyse data

- > Outbreak and surveillance data
- > Safety Learning System/ incidents

Action plan review

> Incorporate improvement actions into your healthcare facility plan ready for next year's season

Next year

- > Begin preparedness for next year
- > Restock outbreak kits (if in use/applicable)



National: www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-flu-guidelines.htm www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/influenza

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