

Shortness of Breath

Infection Prevention and Control

Body Aches/Headache

LTC * Leadership Viral Respiratory Illness (VRI) Toolkit *Includes Assisted Living Attached to a LTC Site

VRI Case Definition: New or Worsening Cough or Fever **PLUS** one of the following symptoms: Chills Sore Throat, Hoarseness Loss of Taste or Smell

Runny or Stuffy Nose	Swollen or Tender Glands in the Neck	Severe Weakness or Fatigue
One resident identified wit	h new symptoms consistent wit	h VRI
■ Initiate an elec	tronic line list of symptomatic residents (i	nclude nending)

Difficulty Swallowing

One resident identified with new symptoms consistent with VRI		
Notification	 Initiate an electronic line list of symptomatic residents (include pending). Update and send Monday to Friday excluding weekends and stats by 1400 to: ICP-LTC@vch.ca Include mhoandcdnurseoncall@vch.ca for + Influenza case. ICP's will follow up with the site until 10 days from last onset of symptoms to ensure site supported during period of further new cases. Password protect the spreadsheet prior to sending via email. See instructions in line list tab. Have residents' influenza vaccine status available; Email questions to: ICP-LTC@vch.ca Review VRI Communication Algorithm 	
Additional	Place symptomatic residents on <u>Droplet and Contact Precautions</u>	
	· · ·	
Precautions	The state of the s	
	 INFLUENZA/COVID 19: 5 days from onset of symptoms and until symptom 	
	improvement and resolution of fever without using fever-reducing medication	

- improvement and resolution of fever without using fever-reducing medication.
 - Place close contacts of residents (e.g., roommates; tablemates) with laboratory confirmed Influenza on Droplet and Contact precautions for 3 days.
- o **RSV:** 7-days post symptom onset and 24-hours after symptoms resolve.
- Residents testing negative: remove from precautions 24 hours after improving symptoms and resolution of fever without using fever-reducing medication.
- Place Droplet and Contact Precautions and donning sign at entrance to resident room in a visible location. Place doffing sign in the doffing zone inside the room.
- Set up room according to Droplet and Contact Precautions in LTC
 - Set up in room garbage, personal laundry hamper, and linen laundry hampers.
- Continue to perform a daily wellness check of all residents in the home.
 - o If any residents are unwell, they should be clinically assessed and tested when VRI case definition met.
- Identify residents on CPAP or BIPAP.
- When VRI-suspected or confirmed and performing AGMP place on Airborne and Contact precautions for the duration of the AGMP.



	 Multi-bedrooms: Draw the curtains for the duration of the AGMP.
	 Single bedrooms: Close door for the duration of the AGMP.
	 Once the AGMP is completed airborne precautions sign can be removed
	Ensure there is a care plan for Manage wandering residents.
Covid 19 +	Refer to (PaxlovidTM) 5-Day Treatment Pack Prescription
Residents	Paxlovid is recommended for LTC residents who test positive for COVID-19 who are
	moderately to severely immunosuppressed OR patient is aged 60 years or older with at
	least one chronic high-risk conditions listed in the MOH 5-Day Treatment Pack Prescription
	form.
	Resource link for Paxlovid.
	o <u>Memo_PaxlovidandTherapeuticUpdate_May29_2024.pdf (bccdc.ca)</u>
	o <u>Clinical Practice Guide for the Use of Therapeutics in Mild-Moderate COVID-19</u>
VRI Testing	Collect specimens for residents that meet case definition unless directed by ICP.
	Use the <u>STANDARD OUT-PATIENTLABORATORY REQUISITION</u>
	 See example on how to complete the requisition here: <u>STANDARD OUT-</u>
	PATIENTLABORATORY REQUISITION infographic.
	Collect PCR nasopharyngeal swab OR oral pharyngeal swab OR nasal swab OR swish and
	gargle, follow BPG Viral Respiratory testing.
	 Consider PCR using <u>nasal</u> or oropharyngeal swab for residents who are challenging
	or cognitively impaired.
	All Vancouver/Richmond sites to send specimens to Vancouver General Hospital
	laboratory.
	Medical Microbiology and Infection Control
	JPPN Room 1100
	Vancouver General Hospital
	910 West 10th Ave
	Vancouver, BC
	Coastal Sites:
	 Squamish sites to send to Squamish General Hospital laboratory.
	Address: 38140 Behrner Drive Squamish, BC V8B 0J3
	 Sechelt sites to send to Sechelt/shíshálh Hospital laboratory (main floor) by 1600.
	 Address: 5544 Sunshine Coast Highway Sechelt, BC VON 3A0
	o Powell River
	 Owned and operated sites to send to Qathet General Hospital laboratory
	by 1430.
	Address: 5000 Joyce Avenue Powell River, BC V8A 5R3
	• Contracted/Private sites to the lab outpatient open 0730-1600.
	Established courier: Follow requirements Transportation of degree and (yellow)
N 4	Follow requirements <u>Transportation of dangerous goods (vch.ca).</u> Follow Public Health residence an application of dangerous goods (vch.ca).
Masking	Follow Public Health guidance on masking.
Group	Group activities to continue on the unit. Sumptomatic residents are not to participate in group activities.
Activities	 Symptomatic residents are not to participate in group activities.
	Close contacts cannot participate in off unit activities. Asymptomatic residents may go to other units to participate in activities.
Discontinuin	Asymptomatic residents may go to other units to participate in activities. Coordinate an "additional pressuttions clean" with the residents begins a both shower.
Discontinuing	Coordinate an "additional precautions clean" with the residents having a bath/shower. Demonstrated and Contact signage when any iron mental cleaning is completed.
Droplet and	Remove Droplet and Contact signage when environmental cleaning is completed.



Contact
Precautions

Identify Droplet and Contact precautions have been discontinued on the line list.

VRI Case Definition:

New or Worsening Cough or Fever **PLUS** one of the following symptoms:

- Chills
- **Shortness of Breath**
- Runny or Stuffy Nose
- Sore Throat, Hoarseness **Difficulty Swallowing**
- Swollen or Tender Glands in the Neck
- Loss of Taste or Smell
- Body Aches/Headache
- Severe Weakness or Fatigue

VRI Cluster: Two or more healthcare associated VRI (excluding influenza) cases identified on a single unit in separate rooms within a 7-day period

- Send an electronic line list of symptomatic residents, include pending swabs.
- Update and send Monday to Friday excluding weekends and stats by 1400 to
 - ICP-LTC@vch.ca

Notification and Line List

- ICP's will follow up with the site until 10 days from last onset of symptoms
- to ensure site supported during period of further new cases. Passwords protect the spreadsheet prior to sending via email.
 - See instructions in line list tab.
- Email questions to: ICP-LTC@vch.ca
- **Review VRI Communication Algorithm**

Additional **Precautions**

- Place symptomatic residents on <u>Droplet and Contact Precautions</u>
- Maintain precautions for:
 - o COVID 19: 5 days from onset of symptoms and until symptom improvement and resolution of fever without using fever-reducing medication.
 - RSV: for 7-days post symptom onset and 24-hours after symptoms resolve.
- Residents testing negative: remove from precautions 24 hours after improving symptoms and resolution of fever without using fever-reducing medication.
- Place Droplet and Contact Precautions and Donning sign at entrance to resident room in a visible location. Place Doffing sign in the doffing zone inside the room.
- Set up room according to Preparing Rooms on Additional Precautions in Long-Term Care (LTC) and Assisted Living (AL).
 - o Set up in room garbage, personal laundry and linen laundry hampers.
- Continue to perform a daily wellness check of all residents in the home.
 - If any residents are unwell, they should be clinically assessed and tested when VRI case definition met.
- Identify residents on CPAP or BIPAP.
- If VRI-suspected or confirmed and Performing AGMP place on Airborne and Contact precautions for the duration of the AGMP.
 - o **Multi-bedrooms**: Draw the curtains for the duration of the AGMP.
 - Single bedrooms: Close door for the duration of the AGMP.
 - o Once the AGMP is completed airborne precautions sign can be removed (No air clearance settle time is required).



	Ensure there is a care plan for Manage wandering residents.	
Covid 19 +	Refer to (PaxlovidTM) 5-Day Treatment Pack Prescription	
Residents • Paxlovid is recommended for LTC residents who test positive for COVID-19		
	who are moderately to severely immunosuppressed OR patient is aged 60	
	years or older with at least one chronic high-risk conditions listed in the MOH	
	5-Day Treatment Pack Prescription form.	
	Resource links for Paxlovid:	
	 Memo PaxlovidandTherapeuticUpdate May29 2024.pdf (bccdc.ca) 	
	o Clinical Practice Guide for the Use of Therapeutics in Mild-Moderate COVID-19	
VRI Testing	Collect specimens for residents that meet case definition unless directed by your ICP.	
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	 See example on how to complete the requisition here: <u>STANDARD OUT-</u> 	
	PATIENTLABORATORY REQUISITION infographic.	
	Collect PCR nasopharyngeal swab, oral pharyngeal swab, nasal swab, swish and gargle,	
	follow BPG Viral Respiratory testing.	
	 Consider PCR using <u>nasal</u> or oropharyngeal swab for residents who are challenging 	
	or cognitively impaired.	
	All Vancouver/Richmond sites to send specimens to Vancouver General Hospital	
	laboratory,	
Medical Microbiology and Infection Control		
	JPPN Room 1100	
	Vancouver General Hospital	
	910 West 10th Ave	
	Vancouver, BC	
	Coastal Sites:	
	 Squamish sites to send to Squamish General Hospital laboratory. 	
	 Address: 38140 Behrner Drive Squamish, BC V8B 0J3 	
	 Sechelt sites to send to Sechelt/shíshálh Hospital laboratory (main floor) by 1600. 	
	 Address: 5544 Sunshine Coast Highway Sechelt, BC VON 3A0 	
	o Powell River	
	 Owned and operated sites to send to Qathet General Hospital laboratory 	
	by 1430.	
	 Address: 5000 Joyce Avenue Powell River, BC V8A 5R3 	
	 Contracted/Private sites to the lab outpatient open 0730-1600. 	
	Established courier:	
	Follow requirements for <u>Transportation of dangerous goods (vch.ca).</u>	
	Schedule internal meetings – identify attendees, admin support and meeting space on	
Communicati	site.	
on and	• Identify means of communication with frontline staff (e.g., Outbreak binders, huddles,	
Coordination	communication binders, communication boards, staff notices or emails).	
	Refer to IPAC Key messages.	
Admissions	Do not admit or move asymptomatic residents into rooms on Droplet and Contact	
and Transfers	Transferring and admission of residents who have recently recovered from COVID-19/RSV	
	require ICP consult.	



Residents Restrict movement of symptomatic residents outside of their rooms as much as possible. Follow care plans for wandering residents on precautions. Provide tray service (in room meals) for residents on Droplet and Contact precautions. Invite symptomatic residents to mask in common areas and when they must leave their room. Encourage diligence in hand washing and use of alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR). For residents who are asymptomatic, review immunizations and offer vaccine to those not yet immunized when vaccine is available. For resident transfers to emergency/acute care, notify paramedics of VRI activity in the facility. Ensure meals and beverages are covered in transport. Ensure overbed tables are available for residents to dine in their room where needed. Consider the need for extra kitchen staff for meal plating for locations with serveries. For sites using the new model of care for breakfast (self-serve) develop a plan for tray service for breakfast as needed. Staff Cases Staff Cases Staff who develop symptoms at home may wish to follow up with their own healthcare provider. VCH staff to report work absence to VCH Absence Call Line (1-866-924-4297). Staff to notify any other employers about cluster and advise them of the activity in the home. Non-VCH staff report to: at home until they feel well enough to return to work (e.g., symptoms resolving, and fever (if present) improved without using fever-reducing medication). Staff should be tested and provided possible treatment at the discretion of their healthcare provider. Provider. • ICP to request enhanced cleaning for Owned and Operated sites. Contracted/Private sites to coordinate enhanced cleaning of frequently touched surfaces to twice daily on affected units with housekeeping staff. • Second cleaning/disinfection preferably 6-8 hours following the initial clean. • Contracted dealing and forting procedures for PPE use. Follow Donning and Doffing procedures for PPE use. Follow Donning and Doffing procedures for PPE use.		
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	Visitors	



	Notify visitors of the respiratory illness cluster and potential risk.	
	Any adjustments to visitor protocols are at the discretion of the ICP	
Staff Break	Ensure there are disinfectant wipes and ABHR for staff.	
Rooms	Consider dedicated unit dining for staff.	
Group	Residents on Droplet and Contact precautions not to attend group activities.	
Activities	 Lab confirmed/clinical cases or symptomatic cases may not participate in group activities. 	
	 Close contacts of lab confirmed/clinical case may not participate in group activities. 	
	 Unaffected asymptomatic residents may continue to participate in group activities. 	
	For any other situation beyond these recommendations, please consult with your ICP.	
	Consider discontinuing or decreasing the size of group activities.	
	 Have residents perform hand hygiene at the beginning and end of activities. 	
	 Clean and disinfect equipment used during the activity (avoid using shared items). 	
Discontinuing	• Coordinate an "additional precautions clean" with the residents having a bath/shower.	
Droplet and	Remove Droplet and Contact signage when environmental cleaning is completed.	
Contact	Identify Droplet and Contact precautions have been discontinued on the line list	
Precautions		

VRI Case Definition: New or Worsening Cough or Fever PLUS one of the following symptoms: • Chills • Sore Throat, Hoarseness • Loss of Taste or Smell • Shortness of Breath • Difficulty Swallowing • Body Aches/Headache • Swollen or Tender Glands in the Neck • Severe Weakness or Fatigue

Influenza Out	Influenza Outbreak Definition:	
Two or more confirmed cases of influenza on a unit in a 7-day period		
Outbreak	The outbreak declaration remains at the discretion of the MHO.	
Declaration	The outbreak declaration remains at the discretion of the Millo.	
Notification and	• Send an <u>electronic line</u> list of symptomatic residents, include pending, and staff cases, 7	
Line List	days per week by 1400 to:	
	o <u>ICP-LTC@vch.ca</u>	
	 MHOandCDNurseOnCall@vch.ca 	
	o <u>LTCEOC@vch.ca</u>	
	 VCHMedMicroIPAC@vch.ca 	
	 Outbreak Management Team 	
	Monday to Friday: ICP to email MHO when outbreak definition met.	



	Weekends and stats: ICP will call MHO (regular hours 0800-1600)
	Password protect the spreadsheet prior to sending via email.
	 See instructions in line list tab.
	B : VB(C : 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
A -1 -1:4:1	
Additional	Place symptomatic residents on <u>Droplet and Contact precautions</u> Maintain properties for the properties of the
Precautions	Maintain precautions for:
	o Influenza: 5 days from onset of symptoms and until symptom improvement and
	resolution of fever without using fever-reducing medication.
	 Close contacts (e.g., roommates; tablemates) on precautions for <u>3 days</u>.
	Residents testing negative: remove from precautions 24 hours after improving
	symptoms and resolution of fever without using fever-reducing medication.
	Place <u>Droplet and Contact precautions</u> and <u>donning sign</u> at entrance to door in a visible
	location. Place <u>doffing sign</u> in the doffing zone inside the room.
	 Set up room according to <u>Preparing Rooms on Additional Precautions in Long-Term Care</u>
	(LTC) and Assisted Living (AL)
	 Set up in room garbage, personal laundry and linen laundry hampers.
	 Continue to perform a daily wellness check of all residents.
	o If any residents are unwell, they should be clinically assessed, if they meet case
	definition then test for VRI illness.
	 If Influenza suspected or confirmed and <u>performing AGMP</u> place on <u>Airborne and</u>
	Contact precautions for the duration of the AGMP
	 Multi-bedrooms: Draw the curtain for the duration of the AGMP.
	 Single bedrooms: Close door for the duration of the AGMP.
	Once the AGMP is completed airborne precautions sign can be removed (No air
	clearance settle time is required).
	Review care plan to <u>Manage wandering residents</u>
VRI Testing	Collect specimens for residents that meet case definition unless directed by MHO,
J	Medical Microbiologist or delegate.
	Use the STANDARD OUT-PATIENTLABORATORY REQUISITION
	 See example on how to complete the requisition here: STANDARD OUT-
	PATIENTLABORATORY REQUISITION infographic.
	Collect PCR nasopharyngeal swab, oral pharyngeal swab, nasal swab, swish and gargle,
	follow BPG Viral Respiratory testing.
	 Consider PCR using nasal or oropharyngeal swab for residents who are
	challenging or cognitively impaired.
	All sites to send specimens to Vancouver General Hospital Laboratory
	Medical Microbiology and Infection Control
	JPPN Room 1100
	Vancouver General Hospital
	910 West 10th Ave
	Vancouver, BC
	Coastal Sites:
	 Squamish sites to send to Squamish General Hospital laboratory.
	 Address: 38140 Behrner Drive Squamish, BC V8B 0J3
	 Sechelt sites to send to Sechelt/shíshálh Hospital laboratory (main floor) by
	1600.



	Address FF44C address Card High as Card III BCVON 240
	Address: 5544 Sunshine Coast Highway Sechelt, BC VON 3A0 Page 11 Biggs 12 Coast Highway Sechelt, BC VON 3A0 Page 11 Biggs 12 Coast Highway Sechelt, BC VON 3A0 Page 13 Coast Highway Sechelt, BC VON 3A0 Page 14 Coast Highway Sechelt, BC VON 3A0 Page 14 Coast Highway Sechelt, BC VON 3A0 Page 14 Coast Highway Sechelt, BC VON 3A0 Page 15 Coast Highway Sechelt Highway Sechel Highway Sechelt Highway Sechel Highway Sechelt Highway Sechelt Highway Sechelt Highway Sechel Highway Sechelt Highway Sechel Highwa
	o Powell River
	Owned and operated sites to send to Qathet General Hospital
	laboratory by 1430.
	 Address: 5000 Joyce Avenue Powell River, BC V8A 5R3
	 Contracted/Private sites to the lab outpatient, open 0730-1600.
	Established courier:
	 Follow requirements for <u>Transportation of dangerous goods (vch.ca)</u>.
Outbreak Declaration	 Two or more cases of influenza in a <u>seven-day</u> period is the threshold for influenza outbreak declaration. The outbreak declaration remains at the discretion of the MHO.
	 Director of care or delegate outbreak management team leader to schedule regular meetings of the OMT
	 Use appropriate PPE, follow routine practices, and minimize contact with isolated residents.
	Hold companion visits for the duration of the outbreak.
Group Activities	Suspend group activities on affected unit.
	Asymptomatic residents may not leave the affected unit to participate in other unit
	activities.
Communication	Director of care or delegate outbreak management team leader to schedule regular
	meetings of the OMT.
	 Notify Outbreak Management team of the outbreak status.
	 Post <u>Outbreak Notification Signage</u> at facility entrance and/or floor/unit/ward advising
	visitors about the outbreak.
	Notify non-facility staff, professionals, and other service providers of the Public Health
	recommendations and to communicate any closures, cancelled services, and/or
	temporary restrictions.
	 These may include volunteers, clergy, Handy DART, oxygen service, BC
	Ambulance, paid companions, students, food service staff, and others.
	• Identify means of communication with frontline staff (e.g., Outbreak binders, huddles,
	communication binders, communication boards, staff notices or emails).
	Share Key Messages with staff.
Residents	Restrict movement of symptomatic residents outside of their rooms as much as
	possible. Follow care plans for wandering residents on precautions.
	Provide tray service (in room meals) for residents on Droplet and Contact precautions.
	Invite symptomatic residents to mask in common areas and when they must leave their
	room.
	Encourage diligence in hand washing and use of alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR).
	For residents who are asymptomatic, review immunizations and offer vaccine to those
	not yet immunized when vaccine is available.
	For resident transfers to emergency/acute care, notify paramedics of Outbreak in the
	facility.
	 Ensure meals and beverages are covered in transport.
	 Ensure overbed tables are available for residents to dine in their room where needed.
	 Consider the need for extra kitchen staff for meal plating for locations with serveries.
	- Consider the need for extra kitchen stan for mear plating for locations with serveties.



	For sites using the new model of care for breakfast (self-serve) develop a plan for tray
	service for breakfast as needed.
Staff	• Cohort staff, volunteer, students to work only in affected areas, where resources permit.
	If possible, staff to start from unaffected units and move to affected units.
	If staff performed PCRA, routine practices, and adhered to appropriate PPE that they
	can continue to work.
	Staff who develop symptoms at home to follow up with their own healthcare provider.
	VCH staff to report work absence to VCH Absence Call Line (1-866-924-4297).
	Staff to notify any other employers about outbreak in the home.
	For the outbreak, staff are advised not to take adjacent, same day, shifts between an
	outbreak facility and a non-outbreak facility.
	Staff should notify non outbreak facility that they worked on an outbreak site.
	Staff should continue to monitor for symptoms and stay home if unwell.
	Non-VCH staff report to:
	Symptomatic HCWs should stay at home until they feel well enough to return to work
	(e.g., symptoms resolving, and fever (if present) improved without using fever-reducing
	medication).
	Staff with underlying chronic health conditions are recommended to seek Rx for antiviral
	prophylaxis from their primary care physician.
	 Provide the Staff Influenza prophylaxis letter from the MHO.
Masking	Follow Public Health guidance on masking.
	Follow the <u>Influenza Prevention</u> Policy.
Admissions and	Suspend admissions and transfers.
Transfers	 New admissions and re-admissions/transfers can be considered on a case-by-
Transiers	case basis with the MHO.
	 Do not admit or move asymptomatic residents into rooms on Droplet and Contact.
	 Transferring and admission of residents who have recently recovered from influenza
DDE	require MHO consult.
PPE	Reinforce with staff to use their use point of care risk assessment for PPE use. Follow Possing and Poffing proceed uses for PPE use.
- "	Follow Donning and Doffing procedures for PPE use.
Supplies	Extra supplies kept here:
	<u>Set-up PPE carts as per document.</u>
	Ensure there is an adequate supply of: gowns, gloves, masks, eye protection,
	disinfectant wipes and ABHR.
	Contracted & Private sites to order replacement viral specimen kits by emailing the
	updated <u>Sample Container Order form</u> to <u>kitorders@hssbc.ca</u> or by faxing a request to
	BCCDC at 604-707-2606
	 Owned and Operated sites order through <u>E Pro: Order # 00090607</u>
	TDG
	Assign restocking the PPE cart and twice daily clean of the PPE cart.
Visitors	Support visitors with donning and doffing.
	Symptomatic visitors should not enter the facility unless for compassionate or
	exceptional circumstances.
	 Notify families/friends of residents of the respiratory illness cluster and potential risk.
	 Any adjustments to visitor protocols are at the discretion of the MHO.
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Enhanced	 ICP to request enhanced cleaning for Owned and Operated sites.
Cleaning	Contracted/Private sites to coordinate enhanced cleaning of frequently touched
	surfaces to twice daily on affected units with housekeeping staff.
	 Second cleaning/disinfection preferably 6-8 hours following the initial clean.
	Continue enhanced cleaning until the outbreak is declared over.
Staff Break	Ensure there are disinfectant wipes and ABHR for staff to use.
Rooms	Dedicate unit specific break rooms where possible.
Influenza	If OSELTAMIVIR (Tamiflu) is advised by the MHO, call Pharmacy/Director of Care to
Prophylaxis and	initiate MRP orders:
Treatment	Name:
	Contact #:
	 Have current weights ready to fax the pharmacy.
	 Creatinine levels should have already been sent to pharmacy (if not, give first
	dose of Tamiflu and order STAT creatinine for subsequent dosing)
	Physician Pre-printed Orders for Vaccines & Tamiflu
	 See <u>Preseason Planning document</u> for preprinted orders.
	If a home is in urgent need of OSELTAMIVIR (Tamiflu) and their community pharmacy is
	unable to supply the antiviral due to supply challenges, please contact Lower Mainland
	Pharmacy Services (LMPS) at PHAFHAPharmacyPurchasers@fraserhealth.ca.
	 They are open 7:00 am to 2:45 pm Mondays to Fridays.
Discontinuing	Coordinate an "additional precautions clean" with the residents having a bath/shower.
Droplet and	Remove Droplet and Contact signage when environmental cleaning is completed.
Contact	Identify Droplet and Contact precautions have been discontinued on the line list
Precautions	
Calling	Call the day OB is declared as Day 0.
Outbreak Over	MHO will call the outbreak over after 2 incubation periods at 6 days and then call it over
	on day 7.
	Discontinue treatment and prophylaxis medication.
	Participate in the debrief with your facility to evaluate the management of the
	Outbreak.
	Order replacement of viral specimen kits.