

Long-Term Care Facility Pre-Season Planning for the Management of Viral Respiratory Illness (VRI)

Action	Done	Initials	Comments
1. Identify a Viral Respiratory Illness (VRI) Lead: Name: _____ Contact #: _____			
2. Verify contact information for Public Health and IPAC Practitioner Public Health Contact Details (up-to-date for 2022-2023): Email (preferred): MHOandCDNurseOnCall@vch.ca and Covid19@vch.ca Phone: 604-675-3900 Saturday, Sunday and Stats Phone: 604-527-4893 IPAC Practitioner Contact Details: Email: ICP-LTC@vch.ca Name: _____ Phone: _____			
3. Communication tool <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify outbreak lead for the site and administrative support. Identify key people and their phone numbers for notification in the event of an outbreak in your facility (e.g. Director of Care, Pharmacy, Physician in Charge, Resident’s physician, Administration) See the Outbreak Management team (OMT) template 			
4. Prepare for antivirals for influenza and COVID-19			
a) For influenza treatment and prophylaxis OSELTAMIVIR (Tamiflu): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update pre-printed orders for vaccine and antiviral medication (treatment and prophylaxis). Include medical contraindications to the above. (Residents who have received treatment dose will not need prophylaxis after completion of treatment) 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide your pharmacy with the weights, ages, gender, and serum creatinine levels for all residents for calculation of Tamiflu dosage 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-arrange with your pharmacy to obtain antiviral medication in a timely fashion, in preparation for an outbreak 			



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare staff influenza prophylaxis letter if antiviral medications are recommended to staff who are unvaccinated against influenza at least 14 days prior to outbreak/exposure 			
<p>b) For COVID-19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the latest British Columbia COVID-19 Therapeutics Committee COVID-19 Care Treatments web page and Health Canada: COVID-19 Treatments web page. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients are eligible depending on age, immune-status and chronic conditions To identify eligibility, clinicians can refer to BCCDC COVID-19 Treatment Assessment Guide for Clinicians Treatment decisions should also be made based on disease progression by day 3-5 since even most high risk patients recover without treatment 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare for the respiratory virus season by identifying patients who qualify for treatment 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain renal function and plan how to manage any drug-drug interactions in case they need therapy. 			
<p>5. Prepare for the administration of influenza, pneumococcal, and COVID-19 vaccines</p>			
<p>a) Influenza</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> REVIEW Nurse Immunizer status and requirements regarding nurse immunizer for staff immunization-including Peer Nurse Immunizer Program Additional educational resource <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BCCDC Influenza Immunization Competency Course: Foundations of Influenza Disease & Vaccines 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vaccine Allocation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Health will contact LTCFs by phone to schedule a date for vaccine delivery VanCity courier will be delivering influenza vaccine directly to the LTCs in Vancouver and North Vancouver 			



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administer influenza vaccine annually to ALL residents, new admissions, staff, physicians, and volunteers who work in the facility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Please refer to BCCDC Immunization Manual Biological Products webpage 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep a record of the immunization status of the residents/staff/physicians/volunteers that is easily accessible by the nursing/medical staff at all times. 			
<p>b) Pneumococcal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administer pneumococcal vaccine to all residents • This vaccine is given once and can be given at any time during the year. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note: a once only re-vaccination should be offered 5 years after initial immunization to those with certain medical risk factors. Please refer to BCCDC Immunization Manual Pneumococcal Polysaccharide • If vaccine history is not available, immunize with pneumococcal vaccine 			
<p>c) COVID-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 booster uses the Moderna SPIKEVAX Bivalent vaccine (Pfizer Bivalent booster is expected shortly) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Offers protection against the ancestral Wuhan strain of the virus as well as the Omicron BA.1 strain) ○ The booster is recommended to be administered at 6 months from last COVID dose (with a minimum interval of 3 months that can be used for operational reasons) ○ If a person has recently had a COVID-19 infection, they should wait three to six months before receiving their booster dose. 			
<p>6. Review stock of PPE supplies required for the facility and order additional supplies as necessary.</p>			
<p>7. Review supplies required for residents on precautions, ensure sites have PPE carts, over bed tables, signage printed and laminated or on wipe able paper, in room garbage/linen/personal laundry hampers , utility tables (ensure the supplies are on site and accessible.</p>			



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<p>8. Ensure you have up to date fit tested staff, in the event that you have symptomatic or positive residents that are on CPAP or BiPAP. Annual fit testing is required.</p> <p>Resources for fit testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owned and Operated sites • Contracted and Private 			
<p>9. Review stock of outbreak specimen kits/nasopharyngeal swabs monitor expiry date. To order swab kits, use the PHSA Sample Container Order Form and email kitorders@hssbc.ca or fax 604-707-2606. Call PHSA CDC Receiving at 604-707-2507 for more information.</p>			
<p>10. Review infection prevention and control procedures and policies with staff. Documents to review include, but are not restricted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review VRI Cluster/ Outbreak toolkit • Complete the leaning hub: Infection Prevention and Control Basics for Health Care Workers in Patient Care Areas and/or Direct Care Roles • Point-of-Care Risk Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Point-of-Care Risk Assessment, do I need PPE ○ Point-of-Care Infographic • Hand Hygiene Training Video • How to Hand Wash Video • Hand Hygiene Using ABHR Video 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Videos around proper Donning and Doffing procedures • Declutter units and rooms 			
<p>11. Public Health and Infection Prevention and Control Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiarize yourself with the relevant VRI materials posted on the Public Health and IPAC websites: Viral Respiratory Illness Toolkit: LTCF Guide/VCH IPAC 			

