

Leamington Mennonite Home
Long Term Care

**INFECTION CONTROL
POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

CATEGORY: Legislative & Legal Requirements (Reporting)	SUBJECT: Reporting Febrile Respiratory Illnesses	SECTION: B POLICY: 2
DATE: July 12, 2022	Administrator's Signature: _____ <i>J. M.!</i>	
REVISION DATES: September 2023, May 2024	IPAC Lead's Signature: _____ <i>L Coppola, Rn.</i>	

REPORTING FEBRILE RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES

POLICY:

Febrile respiratory illnesses (FRI) meeting the case definition of an outbreak will be reported as per policy. A febrile respiratory illness consists of a temperature greater than 38 degrees Celsius and a new or worsening cough or shortness of breath.

PROCEDURE:

- 1) Any new symptoms of fever, cough or shortness of breath should be reported to Registered Staff immediately.
- 2) Registered Staff will notify the IPAC Lead
- 3) If there are 2 or more residents exhibiting the same signs and symptoms and reside in the same area of the Home, it is to be reported to the DNPC, who will then evaluate and determine the need for further interventions with the IPAC Lead.
- 4) Information will be provided to staff caring for those residents showing FRI signs and symptoms.
- 5) The Physician will be updated. The Physician, DNPC, and IPAC Lead will determine whether a swab needs to be obtained and sent to lab.
- 6) The resident will be put on isolation and proper signage and PPE will be located outside the resident's room. Family will be updated and given instruction on proper PPE use when visiting.
- 7) Isolation length will be dependent upon symptoms and will be discussed with Medical Director, DNPC, and IPAC Lead.

If a new resident (within 72 hours of move in) has been assessed as having a febrile respiratory illness, the Infection Control Lead or designate will:

- 1) Contact the healthcare facility from which the resident was discharged and the Public Health Unit, notifying them of their findings. Consent of the resident is not required for this notification.

All Staff reporting off work due to FRI will:

- 1) Notify their manager.

If a Staff reports off work due to FRI, the Manager will:

- 1) Notify the Occupational Health & Safety representative or delegate.

When a cluster of staff is identified with FRI, the Occupational Health & Safety representative will:

- 1) Inform the IPAC Lead, who will notify the Medical Director and the PHU.