

SUMMARY

Monthly LGL Health Care Providers - Public Health Networking Call Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Posted summaries are available here: [Home](#) » [For Professionals](#) » Health Care & Dental Professionals - Current Memos/Notices from Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit.

Recording:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/UyK_plTAkE9Yp9SbvIRxCxGBD-K3WxDfgdDrCMvv2vt3x8gllGJlvhT6WsbBOZyE.26UJHZRUdGPdLbGN

Password: iBwX8^uK

1.0 Welcome – Dr. Linna Li, Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit Medical Officer of Health (Chair)

Welcome to all those in attendance. Recorded – posted on our HCP website section.

2.0 General Health Updates – Dr. Linna Li, LGLDHU MOH

2.1 Invasive Group A Streptococcal Disease

- Awareness of local situation that recently occurred (as well as occurrence in the past):
 - Two middle aged people in good health were seen by health care provider/at emergency departments - both discharged and subsequently died; later lab tests confirmed Group A strep growing in their blood.
- Reportable
 - Invasive Group A strep is reportable to the Health Unit – we receive information about these sorts of situations – that is why we wanted to raise awareness of higher than usual transmission.
- Reminder to have a higher index of suspicion for invasive Group A strep:
 - Currently transmission levels are at a high watermark globally.
 - Main subtype of Group A strep circulating is more likely to be invasive.
 - Recent chickenpox infections and certain respiratory infections increase the risk of invasive Group A strep (vaccination for these two infections will decrease the risk).
 - No vaccine for Group A strep.
 - Extremes of age and pregnant women are at higher risk.
 - Those with infection can decompensate quickly.
- Clinical Practice Resources:
 - [Group A Streptococcus: What paediatric health-care providers need to know](#)
 - [AboutKidsHealth resource for parents and caregivers: Invasive group A streptococcal disease \(iGAS\)](#)

2.2 Measles Preparedness

- We have had a few situations in Leeds, Grenville and Lanark where Health Unit measles investigations have demonstrated some gaps that we wanted to highlight:
 - Clinicians to have a high index of suspicion for measles
 - Clinicians arrange for testing
 - Think about infection prevention and control (IPAC) in the workplace
- A number of measles cases identified across Ontario recently; most have been travel related among people who are unvaccinated or under vaccinated.

SUMMARY: Monthly Leeds Grenville & Lanark Health Care Providers - Public Health Networking Call

- Reason for higher measles transmission globally is a relative loss of measles vaccination during the pandemic response where there was a series of years where people were not vaccinated for measles, especially young children.
- Not endemic to Canada since the '90-s; however the World Health Organization (WHO) expects half of the countries in the world will be high risk because of how transmissible it is.
- [Fact Sheet to Health Care Providers](#) was recently sent out:
 - Notify the Health Unit: Let the Health Unit know if you have someone suspected of measles.
 - Do not send people suspected of having measles to the Health Unit or to pharmacies.
 - If they are a patient of yours, bring them in for assessment. If there is no doctor available, the patient needs to go to the ER for assessment. Undertaking prioritized testing is critical (page 3). Please call Public Health lab to let them know to expect a measles sample so they can prioritize.
 - Consider how you would plan the occupational health and IPAC challenges for a case that presents.
 - For more information, refer to the Health Unit's information document, or [Public Health Ontario: Measles: Information for HCPs](#)

3.0 Vaccine Preventable Diseases – Erin McLean, Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD) Coordinator

Updated link to Publicly Funded Vaccine Schedule and Guidance for catch-up posted on our website:

- <https://healthunit.org/for-professionals/health-care-dental/immunization-resources/>

Vaccine Ordering

- Deadline for this round of vaccine orders was last Thursday at 4:30 pm. Thank you for using the online order form and high risk order forms posted on our website. There was a brief period last week where the online form wasn't automatically sent to the order email address, we believe this is fixed now: <https://healthunit.org/for-professionals/health-care-dental/immunization-resources/vaccine-order-form/>
- For those who pick up their vaccine order at the Kemptville service site, we hope to have them available at the new Kemptville service site this week. We will be in touch.

MMR/MMRV

- We have ordered an additional supply of MMR and MMRV vaccine and it is expected to arrive this week. Vaccine orders will be going out at the end of this week, including the requests for MMR and MMRV.
- We notified parents of school and daycare children of our pop up clinics for MMR for those who will be traveling on the March break and they believe that they have a family member with incomplete series.
- We've been directing all others to their primary care provider to get assessed and immunized if needed.

School Vaccine

- We sent out letters to families in late January seeking missing immunization records.
- Please provide a copy of the immunization record directly to patients/parents. We often need additional information from the parent, so our getting the information from the parents instead of the health care provider facilitates follow-up for us.

Parents can submit the record:

- Online through the Health Unit's secure portal:
<https://s-ca.chkmkt.com/?e=314268&h=D96D5099496A93A&l=en>
- By mail or dropping it off at a Health Unit office location.
- Please DO NOT fax any immunization records to the Health Unit—we are not monitoring our faxes for these submissions.

SUMMARY: Monthly Leeds Grenville & Lanark Health Care Providers - Public Health Networking Call

- If there are questions, refer people to our website:
<https://healthunit.org/health-information/immunization/>
- We are providing additional immunization clinics to help get children up-to-date with required school vaccines. Online appointment booking:
<https://reservation.frontdesksuite.ca/lgldhu/immunization>

Flu Vaccine

- Still available to order online.

COVID Vaccine

- Fall COVID booster campaign ended last week.
- There will be a spring campaign for high risk only – eligibility list is being finalized, expected to be only April and May.
- We will continue to offer clinics for children and adults, primary series but in our routine clinics.
- We no longer have COVID Rat kits available for distribution at the Health Unit.

4.0 Infant and Early Mental Health (IEMH) 2024 Survey of Primary Care Practitioners – Cathy DelMei, Clinical Services Manager

- Are you a physician or a nurse in Canada who sees families with children less than three years old in your practice? Please take the five-minute, anonymous, bilingual survey at:
<https://surveys.sickkids.ca/surveys/?s=NTXREX44MNHFCJYW>.
- Developed by the [Infant and Early Mental Health Promotion](#) at The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids), it will inform the development of infant and early mental health resources for you and your colleagues.

5.0 Meeting Adjournment – Next Regular Meeting Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 8:00 AM

- ***Special Measles Webinar scheduled Thursday, March 7th at 12 Noon-12:15 pm.***