

Winter outbreaks (Respiratory illness): Infection prevention and control preparedness for healthcare facilities

Exemplar only - also refer to sahealth.sa.gov.au and local internal policies and procedures



PREPARE		RESPOND			EVALUATE
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY – OCT	NOV – DEC
Infection Prevention and Control strategies and staff education including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand hygiene Cough etiquette Personal protective equipment (PPE) including surgical or fit tested particulate filter respirator (PFR) 	Response capacity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify single rooms and bed management plan Review SA Health Bed Management Toolkit Check PPE and testing supplies Check vaccination status of staff and patients/residents 	Staff education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respiratory illness response Infection control refresher (e.g. hand hygiene, cough etiquette, PPE) 	Attend SA Health planned seminars <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winter Outbreak Preparedness Seminar 	Respiratory illness prevention and control measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respiratory illness prevention and control measures in response to increasing cases Active case finding and control 	Evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate effectiveness of infection prevention and control measures
Surveillance systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available surveillance systems Reporting and monitoring mechanisms 	Communication plan and document templates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily bulletins, briefs and flowcharts Liaise with ED regarding rapid assessment, treatment and admission 	Admission plan/patient flow <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review patient/client journey/pathways 	Commence vaccination campaign <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commence staff, client/patient vaccinations Check SA Health advice for exact commencement date 	Policy and procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to national and state guidelines and resources Continue to action in response to cases 	Analyse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outbreak and surveillance data report according to local systems Any incidence(s) via local reporting systems
Outbreak team, structure and governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multidisciplinary outbreak management team to report as per internal governance structure. Update contact information and flowcharts 	Attend SA Health planning meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immunisation Workshop (if applicable) 	Refer to SA Health respiratory information and surveillance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notifiable information sahealth.sa.gov.au/NotifiableDiseaseReporting Surveillance charts sahealth.sa.gov.au/SurveillanceNotifiableConditions 	Outbreak supplies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure adequate supplies and storage of equipment (PPE and testing equipment). 	Respiratory notifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify the Communicable Disease Control Branch of outbreaks Tel: 1300 232 272 	Action plan review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate any identified actions into your healthcare facility's plan ready for next year's season
Policy and procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review policies, procedures and outbreak action plans National and State guidelines, available at: sahealth.sa.gov.au/flu 	Patient information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review consumer information sheets Partner with consumers 	Respiratory illness prevention initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor for any increase in cases Review client/patient care policy and procedures Deploy respiratory and PPE stations 	Bed management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider proactive rounding and active case finding Infection control to assist with bed management Isolation of cases 	Infection control advice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek advice from your local Infection Prevention and Control Coordinator or Infection Control Service Tel: (08) 7425 7161 	Recovery and future planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin preparedness for next year Restock outbreak kits (as applicable)

For more information

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

SA: sahealth.sa.gov.au/flu
sahealth.sa.gov.au/COVID-19