

May 10, 2007

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**Mumps Cases In Ontario Linked to the Outbreak in the Maritimes**

As of May 10, 2007, five confirmed cases of mumps in Ontario have been reported to the Infectious Diseases Branch by the York Region, Waterloo and Ottawa Health Units. There are five additional suspect cases under investigation in Ontario.

All cases are linked to the outbreak in Nova Scotia, ongoing since January 2007. Some cases are students returning from Nova Scotia, while the other cases are associated with visits to Nova Scotia from mid-March to early April.

**There is no evidence of local transmission to date.**

Please refer to the Health Professionals Update faxed on May 3, 2007 to review clinical presentation and diagnostic testing. This update can also be found at:  
<http://www.peelregion.ca/health/professionals/pdfs/07-05-07-Act-HIB.pdf>.

**Immunization Against Mumps**

Previous mumps outbreaks in Canada have been associated with unimmunized and under-immunized groups. Such outbreaks point to the importance of ensuring that patients in your practice are immunized.

Mumps vaccine is given in combination with Measles and Rubella (MMR). The first dose must be given after the first birthday and the second dose at least one month after the first.

**If you encounter a suspect case of mumps, please contact Peel Public Health at (905) 799-7700.**

**Smog Advisories**

May 8, 2007 marked the first smog advisory for the Region of Peel. While the majority of smog advisory days occur in the summer, smog is a year round problem. On poor air quality days, patients in your practice may experience:

- an increase in eye, nose and throat irritation,
- coughing and wheezing,
- breathing difficulty,
- reduced lung capacity and
- increased heart and lung conditions.

Poor air quality is linked to an increased incidence of hospitalizations and premature death.

The Region of Peel's Smog website at: <http://www.peelregion.ca/health/smog/index.htm> is an excellent resource for your patients. The site offers information on:

- Smog
- General ways to protect health
- Health advice for vulnerable populations including children and the elderly, and individuals with allergies, asthma and/or heart or lung conditions
- Actions to reduce smog