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- **Update #8: Influenza A (H1N1) virus,
May 4, 2009**

FROM:

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**This is an update to the May 1st, 2009
communication on influenza A (H1N1) virus.**

1. Ontario Update

As of May 4th at 10am, there are 31 confirmed cases of swine flu in Ontario. There are 2 confirmed cases in Peel, 1 of which is associated with travel to Mexico.

2. Laboratory Testing

In the May 3rd Important Health Notice, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care revised its guidelines for testing to the following:

Ambulatory Care Settings:

- outpatients with influenza-like illness (ILI) within 7 days of contact with a confirmed case of H1N1
- outpatients with ILI with travel to Mexico within 7 days

Hospital Settings:

- patients hospitalized with ILI
- patients in Emergency Department who are expected to be admitted with ILI
- patients with ILI within 7 days of contact with a confirmed case or with travel to Mexico within 7 days

Note: Physicians no longer need to submit the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion's Case Information Form with the sample. Physicians are still required to provide information about the patient on the laboratory requisition form, as samples will be processed in order of priority. The required information includes:

1. Hospitalized or outpatient
2. Recent travel history

3. Upper respiratory tract infection or lower respiratory tract infection/ pneumonia
4. Febrile or afebrile
5. Other major symptoms (e.g. gastroenteritis)
6. Please write "High Priority" on the requisition form

Situation Update

WHO Phase of Pandemic Alert: 5

Case Update

- As of May 4th at 2pm, there are 2 confirmed cases in Peel.
- As of May 3rd at 2pm, 101 cases have been confirmed in Canada.

Laboratory Testing

- Lab testing guidelines have been revised, as summarized in this update and described in the attached Important Health Notice.

More Information

For more information on influenza A (H1N1) virus, please call the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Healthcare Providers Hotline toll free at 1-866-212-2272 or Peel Public Health at 905- 799-7700.