



**Designated Officers IPAC Day
January 17, 2013
Yen Phan**

Agenda

Purpose of the day

1. Provide up to date training on IPAC for Designated Officers and Emergency Response Workers.
2. Provide overview of various roles related to IPAC and Emergency Response.
3. Opportunity to network with other individuals.
4. Opportunity to meet with vendors.





History of Designated Officer's Program

- ◆ 1988 - CDC issues document updating Universal Precautions and prevention of transmission of HIV, HBV, and other blood borne infections
 - ◆ first relating to PPE
 - ◆ Laboratory Centre for Disease Control endorses recommendations
- ◆ 1991 – MOHLTC taskforce recommends uses of Universal Precautions be adopted and used in all health care settings and all procedures where risk of exposure exists
- ◆ 1994 – MOHTLC Release of Notification of Emergency Service Workers Protocol
- ◆ 2008 – MOHLTC Exposures of Emergency Service Workers to Infectious Disease Protocol

Purpose of Designated Officers Program

- ◆ Increasingly the threat of contracting a communicable disease is a serious risk for emergency workers.
- ◆ This program is designed for emergency services personnel who wish to become the “designated officer” within their organization, as required by the Ministry of Health.
- ◆ This program will provide participants with information about the legislation and guidelines that apply, and how to recognize, assess and control common communicable diseases in the emergency services.

Emergency Services Workers may come in contact with:

- ◆ Blood borne disease e.g. Hepatitis B, and AIDS
- ◆ Respiratory spread diseases e.g. TB and meningococcal disease
- ◆ Emerging drug resistant organisms

The Designated Officer

- ◆ Appointed by their organization
- ◆ Works within a set standard of practices
- ◆ Assesses reports to determine exposure situation/risk
- ◆ Consults with the local Medical Officer of Health (MOH) for recommendations of action
 - ◆ Consultation with MOH does not replace requirement for urgent medical assessment and/or the role of the family physician
- ◆ Completion of forms

Role of the Designated Officer

- ◆ Receive detailed reports from workers who believe they may have had an exposure to a communicable disease
- ◆ Assess whether a significant exposure has occurred
- ◆ If an exposure has occurred contact Health Unit with details as needed for support and recommendations.
- ◆ Inform Emergency Response Worker of recommendations and advise to seek medical care.

Role of the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

To support DO's and Emergency Response Workers, the public health unit is required to:

- ◆ Have an on-call system for receiving and responding to reports of infectious diseases of public health importance 24/7.
- ◆ Have available to DO's and ESW's a MOH or designate to receive and respond to calls .
- ◆ Advise DO's in the health unit jurisdiction of possible exposure of ESWs including circumstances such as:
 - ◆ Actively seek out contacts of cases with infectious disease of public health importance.
 - ◆ Inform the respective DO that an ESW may have been exposed to an infectious disease of public health importance.
 - ◆ Informing DO's regarding any specific actions to be taken based on information provided.

Supporting Designated Officers in their Roles

Local

Support DO's in training ESWs

List Serve for DO's (updates, notices, information via email)

Local services (individual detachments and organizations)

DO Training days

SMDHU Health Connection Line (services to various programs)

Provincially

Local CHICA chapter (CHICA SM)

Provincial Designated Officers Group

Public Health Ontario or local Regional Infection Control Network

Other local public health units (36)

Professional groups (Police, Fire, Ambulance)

National

CHICA

Pre-hospital Care interest group

Thank You