

Health **FAX**

Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) Infections: Update #2

Attention: **Physicians, Emergency Departments, Nurse Practitioners, Infection Control Practitioners, Occupational Health Professionals, Walk-In Clinics/Urgent Care Clinics, Midwives, Family Health Teams, NSM LHIN, Central LHIN, County of Simcoe Paramedic Services, Medavie EMS Ontario – Muskoka, Rama Mnjikaning EMS**

Date: May 13, 2013

As of May 9, 2013 the World Health Organization has reported several new confirmed cases of the novel coronavirus in Saudi Arabia and France. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC), in collaboration with Public Health Ontario and the Public Health Agency of Canada, is closely monitoring this evolving situation.

To date, there have been no cases of novel coronavirus detected in Ontario or Canada and the risk to Ontarians of contracting this virus remains low. However, due to the evolving situation in France, the Arabian Peninsula and neighbouring countries, the high mortality rate in a small number of known cases and the suggestion of nosocomial transmission, health partners are asked to remain vigilant by:

- **performing screening** for Acute Respiratory Illness (ARI – previously known as Febrile Respiratory Illness - FRI); and
- **adding additional precautions** to routine practices when caring for any ARI patients who present with a travel history to affected areas, as outlined at the MOHLTC website below.

The MOHLTC will continue to work with health partners to monitor this issue and will continue to share any further advice or updates. The above noted information and further updates may be found at the MOHLTC website:

English: <http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/>

French: <http://www.health.gov.on.ca/fr/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/>

For information on the ARI screening procedure, please visit: <http://www.oahpp.ca/resources/pidac-knowledge/best-practice-manuals/prevention-of-transmission-of-acute-respiratory-infection.html>

Further Information:

For additional provincial information, call the MOHLTC's Health Care Provider Hotline at 1-866-212-2272.

For additional local information or to report suspect nCoV cases or cases under investigation please contact the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, Communicable Disease Team at (705)721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 extension 8809.