

APPENDIX F - II - 1: CASE DEFINITIONS

Influenza (Seasonal Influenza) (Note that case definition may change during pandemic)

Confirmed Case = Clinically compatible signs and symptoms with:

(a) laboratory confirmation by detection or isolation of influenza virus in pharyngeal, nasal secretions or lung tissue;

or

(b) demonstration of a four-fold or greater increase in hemagglutination antibody titres to influenza between acute and convalescent sera;

or

(c) an epidemiologic link to a laboratory confirmed case.ⁱ

Influenza-like Illness (ILI)

acute onset of respiratory illness with fever and cough and with one or more of the following: sore throat, arthralgia, myalgia or prostration, which could be due to influenza virus. In children under 5, gastrointestinal symptoms may also be present. In patients under 5 or 65+, fever may not be prominent.ⁱⁱ

Febrile Respiratory Illness (FRI)

a wide range of droplet-spread respiratory infections, such as colds, influenza, ILI and pneumonia, which usually present with symptoms of a fever of greater than 38 degrees C and new or worsening cough or shortness of breath. Note: elderly people and people who are immunocompromised may not have a febrile response to a respiratory infection.ⁱⁱⁱ

ⁱ IPHIS Manual. Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Public Health Division. 2005

ⁱⁱ Health Canada. FluWatch: weekly report form 2005/2006. Public Health Agency of Canada. 2006

ⁱⁱⁱ Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care PHDPIDA. Preventing febrile respiratory illnesses: protecting patients and staff. 2005. Available from: URL:
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/infectious/diseases/best_prac/bp_fri_092_805.pdf