

# For Your Information

News for Health Care Providers in  
Peterborough County and City

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## Infectious Disease Update

### Neomycin Allergies and the Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP) 2011/2012

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (the ministry) has received questions about the use of publicly funded influenza vaccines for people with allergies to neomycin.

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) Statement on Seasonal Influenza Vaccine for 2011-2012 recommends that influenza vaccine should not be given to people who have had an anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose or to any of the vaccine components. The product monographs for Vaxigrip® and Agriflu® list trace amounts of neomycin as a component of the vaccine.

#### **Anaphylactic allergy to neomycin:**

The ministry recommends that individuals who have had an anaphylactic reaction to neomycin should not receive any vaccines which contain neomycin.

#### **Non-anaphylactic allergy to neomycin:**

A neomycin allergy is rare and most often a contact dermatitis, a manifestation of a delayed-type (cell-mediated) immune response rather than anaphylaxis. History of delayed-type reactions to neomycin is not considered a contraindication for administration of a neomycin-containing vaccine.<sup>1</sup>

If a neomycin allergy is suspected, the ministry recommends referring the individual to the primary health care provider and/or allergist for further investigation to determine the nature of the allergy and if the neomycin-containing vaccine can be given safely.

To address the public health needs of those with confirmed contraindications to neomycin, the ministry is planning to acquire a supply of the Fluviral® vaccine. When the vaccine is available the Health Unit will notify Health Care Providers.

#### **Ordering Information:**

- The Health Unit will send only one vial (10 doses) upon request.
- To order this vaccine, they can use the regular vaccine order form, but just indicate FLUVIRAL on the form.
- The vaccine is only for those who have contraindications to neomycin.
- Remember to date the multi-dose vial when opening it.
- The monograph will be on the PCCHU website.

If you have any questions, please contact  
Zina Allen, ext. 283

<sup>1</sup> General recommendations on immunization—recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). MMWR Recomm Rep 2011 Jan 28; 60(2):1-64. Available from: [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr6002a1.htm?s\\_cid=rr6002a1\\_eHLTC2976IT-2011-354](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr6002a1.htm?s_cid=rr6002a1_eHLTC2976IT-2011-354)

### Labstract, October 2012

In this issue:

1. Respiratory Viral Testing Algorithm
2. Antiviral Influenza Susceptibility Testing
3. New Services Provided by Public Health Ontario

For the October 2011 issue of LABSTRACT by Public Health Ontario, visit [www.pcchu.ca](http://www.pcchu.ca) and click on "For Healthcare Professionals"



## HPV Vaccine for Boys ***If Parents Have Private Coverage, Vaccinate!***

Males were recently added to the populations for whom Gardasil™ is licensed for use in Canada. The vaccine is indicated for girls and boys nine years of age and older, up to 26 years. However, only Grade 8 girls are able to get the vaccine for free in Ontario. The four strains of HPV that are covered by the vaccine cause two types of problems: strains 6 and 11 cause genital warts, and strains 16 and 18 cause cancer. In males, the types of cancers caused by HPV include cancers of the anus, penis, and the head and neck. HPV vaccination had the potential to significantly reduce cancer in several sites, as well as reduce other HPV-associated ano-genital disease.

The Health Unit encourages healthcare providers to vaccinate males where private coverage exists because they are the vectors of HPV-related disease for women and men. There are no studies that prove that vaccinating males will reduce cervical cancer in females, yet. But it makes inherent sense: HPV is sexually transmitted; HPV infection and disease in one partner significantly contributes to the risk of infection and disease in the other partners; HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection among young adults; condoms are not 100% effective. And males who have sex with males have an even higher incidence of HPV disease. For those without drug coverage, the total cost of all doses of HPV is approximately \$400.

For further information, please contact:  
Dr. Rosana Pellizzari,  
Medical Officer of Health,  
705-743-1000, ext. 350

## “Quit Exchange” Helps Tobacco Users and Friends Work Together on Quitting

Designed for social media users, the “Quit Exchange” request can be started on Facebook by those who want to help a friend quit or by someone ready to quit who wants to challenge a friend to support them.

The 20-24 age group represents the largest group of people who smoke in the province, however they can be the hardest to reach because many don’t access traditional media outlets like radio and newspapers. The “Quit Exchange” reaches them where they spend a lot of their time - on social media sites.

The “Quit Exchange” is the second phase of the Central East Tobacco Control Area Network’s (CETCAN) Don’t Quit Quitting campaign, with a goal to provide cessation

supports for young adults to help them break their tobacco addiction. Don’t Quit Quitting celebrates quit attempts – including failed attempts – as a positive step towards quitting for good. Research shows that most tobacco users must make several quit attempts before they have long-term success.



For more information about the new Quit Exchange application visit [www.dontquitquitting.ca](http://www.dontquitquitting.ca).

For further information, please contact:  
Mary Pat Fasken, Tobacco Use Prevention Program  
705-743-1000, ext. 217

## Reporting Animal Bites - is it Rabies?

The *Health Protection and Promotion Act* imposes a duty on physicians and nurse practitioners, among others, to report to the Medical Officer of Health any animal bite or other animal contact that may result in rabies in a person. In Peterborough County and City, that report can be made by calling the Health Unit at 705-743-1000.

In all cases of suspected rabies exposures, the Health Unit will conduct a risk assessment, and provide a report to the attending physician. The report will include the circumstances, type, and location of the exposure, the risk of rabies in the animal species involved, the prevalence of rabies in the area where the exposure occurred, and the rabies immunization status of the animal and the victim. The report will also include a recommendation regarding administration of post exposure prophylaxis.



However, the attending physician ultimately makes the decision to provide prophylaxis. In most incidents where the animal involved is a dog, cat, or ferret, rabies vaccination can be deferred for up to 10 days to allow for assessment of the animal's health status. There is an exception in the case of bite wounds to the head, neck, or face, where prophylaxis should generally begin immediately.

If you decide to provide post exposure prophylaxis, the vaccine and globulin can be ordered for pick-up by calling the Health Unit at 705-743-1000. The schedule for administration of rabies vaccine remains unchanged, with doses given on days 0, 3, 7, 14, and 28. If the schedule includes days where your patient would not have access to care through your office, the PRHC has indicated that they will provide vaccination. In these cases, please provide your patient with a note confirming the vaccine requirement and the date needed.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's "Guidelines for Management of Suspected Rabies Exposures" can be found at:

[http://www.pcchu.ca/RP/images/Guidelines\\_for\\_Management\\_of\\_Suspected\\_Rabies\\_Exposures.pdf](http://www.pcchu.ca/RP/images/Guidelines_for_Management_of_Suspected_Rabies_Exposures.pdf)

For further information, please contact:  
Inspection Program, 705-743-1000

## Educational Opportunities

Free Webinars held on November 14-17, 2011 during antibiotic awareness week will be available at:

[http://antibioticawareness.ca/?page\\_id=107](http://antibioticawareness.ca/?page_id=107)

OHA Directory of Upcoming Courses can be found at:

<http://www.oha.com/Education/Pages/EventDirectory.aspx>

*"Top 10 Topics in Key Areas of Infectious Disease: A Snapshot of What's New, Important, and Changing"* This is presented by the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. See Live Online:

<http://www.idcarelive.com/>

### RICN Monthly Lunch & Learn Sessions (12 noon - 1:15 p.m.)

All Lunch and Learn information is available on the RICN website at: <http://ricn.on.ca/nwoicneducationcalendarc256.php>. To access live and archived Lunch and Learn sessions go to:

<http://webcast.otn.ca/archives.html>

November 17, 2011 Invasive Group A Strep Dr. Allison McGeer

December 15, 2011 Shoulda, Coulda, Woulda: Tips & Tricks for Working with CDI

### Free Provincial Webinar Series on Chronic Pain and Opioids (11:50 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.) Registration is required for each event.

November 18, 2011 Chronic Pain and Treatment

December 15, 2011 Opioid Monitoring, Tapering and Substitution Therapy

January 17, 2012 Non-pharmacologic Therapy for Chronic Pain

For more information on registration and technical requirements for this event, please contact [Heather\\_McLaughlin@camh.net](mailto:Heather_McLaughlin@camh.net)

### Upcoming Conferences

June 4-6, 2012 APIC 39th Annual Conference and Meeting: "Infection Prevention: Improving Outcomes, Saving Lives"

San Antonio, TX

[http://www.apic.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=APIC\\_2012&Template=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&ContentID=18822](http://www.apic.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=APIC_2012&Template=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&ContentID=18822)

June 16-21, 2012 CHICA-Canada 2012 National Education Conference: [http://www.chica.org/conf\\_registration.php](http://www.chica.org/conf_registration.php)

**Details on other Educational Opportunities are available by visiting the "For Healthcare Professionals" page on [www.pcchu.ca](http://www.pcchu.ca) or <http://www.ricn.on.ca/>**

## Health Events for Patients

### Teen Prenatal Supper Club

January 10 to February 14, 2012

Peterborough Family Resource Centre,  
201 Antrim St., Peterborough

Six FREE classes every Tuesday from 5:15 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Supper and transportation within the city included.

To register, call 705-743-1000,  
ask for the Teen Prenatal Supper Club

### Prenatal Health Fair

February 27, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Holiday Inn, 50 George St., Peterborough

For more information, call 705-743-1000, ext. 254

### Supermarket Tours

Patients can tour your local grocery store with a Registered Dietitian guiding them to the healthiest food choices! Open to everyone in the community who would like to eat healthier to prevent disease and enhance health and well-being. Offered free of charge; limited to 15 participants.

For information and to register, contact the Canadian Diabetes Association, call 705-742-2733 or e-mail [diabetes@trytel.net](mailto:diabetes@trytel.net)

### Looking for a specific health topic?

Visit the FYI Newsletter archive at [www.pcchu.ca](http://www.pcchu.ca)