

# For Your Information

A newsletter for health care providers in  
Peterborough County and City  
Volume 16 Number 01 January 2011



**FREE Lunch and Learn for Family Health Office Staff**  
Wed, Jan 26, 2011 from 12:00 – 1:15 pm. The inservice will cover: Healthy Smiles Ontario, 18 Month Well-Baby Visit, Perinatal Mood Disorders, Breastfeeding Support Services, Immunization Schedules, and Infant and Toddler Development. Lunch is provided. Registration flyer to be sent to offices soon. [CONTACT: Leisa Baker]

## Nearly 5,000 Ontarians Die Due to Infectious Diseases Yearly

Many of these infectious diseases get little recognition in terms of public awareness, media attention and resource allocation, says a new study released by OAHPP and the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES). Led by Dr. Jeff Kwong, scientist at ICES, and Dr. Natasha Crowcroft, Director of Surveillance and Epidemiology at OAHPP, the Ontario Burden of Infectious Disease Study (ONBOIDS) is the most comprehensive review of the burden of infectious disease in Ontario to date. The study reviewed data on 51 different infectious diseases to determine their impact on the life and health of Ontarians. They found that the 10 most burdensome infectious diseases in Ontario are:

- Hepatitis C virus
- *Streptococcus pneumoniae*
- Human papillomavirus (HPV)

- Hepatitis B virus
- *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*)
- HIV/AIDS
- *Staphylococcus aureus*
- Influenza
- *Clostridium difficile*
- Rhinoviruses (common cold)

"Each year, Ontarians seek medical attention for more than seven million episodes of infectious diseases. Infectious diseases are not going away, and we as a society need to realize the impact of a number of these diseases," says Dr. Kwong. A large proportion of the burden of illness could be attributed to a small number of pathogens and syndromes for which highly effective targeted interventions (e.g., pneumococcal, HBV and HPV vaccines) and non-specific interventions (e.g., hand washing, male and female condoms) already exist. The future burden of some of these infectious agents and syndromes may be reduced with greater uptake of available interventions. "It is important to remember that infectious diseases are preventable in many different ways. These findings show where and how we should be concentrating our efforts to get the greatest impact in improving health. Improvements range from concentrating on vaccine programs, such as for human papillomavirus, through increasing screening and access to treatment for hepatitis B and C, to developing new ways to fight infectious diseases," says Dr. Crowcroft. For the full report:

<http://www.oahpp.ca/index.html>  
[CONTACT: Jan Self, Marilyn Mitchell, Sarah McBride, Nicole Dunlop, Simon Lee, Wanda Tonus]

## Vaccine Storage and Handling

Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidance Document:  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/pubhealth/oph\\_standards/ophs/progstds/pdf/gd\\_vaccine\\_storage.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/pubhealth/oph_standards/ophs/progstds/pdf/gd_vaccine_storage.pdf). Health Units submit results of cold chain inspections to the Ministry after a cold chain incident involving publicly funded vaccine. Health Units conduct routine inspections on a yearly basis and the results will be submitted to the MOHLTC yearly. [CONTACT: Jan Self, Marilyn Mitchell, Nicole Dunlop and Sarah McBride]

## Infection Prevention and Control Boot Camp for HCWs

Monday May 30, 2011 at the Sheraton Centre Toronto  
Registration: \$50.00 plus HST and includes lunch and refreshment breaks (after April 15, the cost is \$75.00 plus HST). Conference registration: [www.chica.org](http://www.chica.org)  
[CONTACT: Joanne Habib CERCIN at (905)430-4055 ext. 6212]

## 2010-2011 Seasonal Flu Vaccine

Lab-confirmed flu has been reported in Peterborough. Vaccine is available in health care provider offices and at the Health Unit Immunization Clinic by appointment ONLY. [CONTACT: Sarah McBride and Zina Allen]

# For Your Information

A newsletter for health care providers in  
Peterborough County and City  
Volume 16 Number 01 January 2011



## Healthy Smiles Ontario Basic Dental Care for Children and Youth

Good oral health is important to the overall health of children and youth.

### What is Healthy Smiles Ontario?

Healthy Smiles Ontario is a new program funded by the Province of Ontario for children and youth age 17 and under who do not have access to any form of dental coverage. Through the HSO program, eligible children and youth are able to receive basic dental care at no cost to their families.

### What is new and different about Healthy Smiles Ontario?

Until now, dental care providers were only able to help children and youth who had urgent dental treatment needs. This program will ensure that children and youth in low-income families have equitable access to a full-scope of dental services, and improved oral health.

### Who is eligible?

To be eligible, children and youth 17 and under, must reside in Ontario, be a member of a household with an Adjusted Family Net Income of \$20,000 or less, and not have access to any form of dental coverage (including other government-funded programs, like Ontario Works). To qualify, parents or guardians are required to show specific government-issued documentation, and the child must have a valid Ontario Health Card.

### What services are covered under Healthy Smiles Ontario?

The Healthy Smiles Ontario program covers regular visits to a licensed dental care provider, such as a dentist or dental hygienist, to establish and maintain good oral health. It covers a full range of preventive and early treatment dental services including check-ups, cleaning and scaling, fillings, x-rays and more.

### Where can children go to receive services through the Healthy Smiles Ontario program?

Eligible clients will be provided with a client 'card' that they can take to a private dentist or dental hygienist in our area who is participating in the program, or to a public health dental clinic. The choice of dental provider will be theirs to make.

### How do individuals enroll in the program?

Individuals need to contact the Health Unit and ask to speak with the Healthy Smiles Ontario secretary, who will assist them with the application process which involves completing a form, and showing required documentation.

### Where do I go for more information?

If you have any questions, please contact Anne Robinson, Secretary for Healthy Smiles Ontario at (705) 743-1000, Ext 265, or visit [www.pcchu.ca](http://www.pcchu.ca) and click on the link to the provincial Healthy Smiles Ontario website.