

H1N1 Update

Week 10 of the second wave of the H1N1 flu pandemic.

Questions or comments to:
HEOC@health.gov.sk.ca

HEOC Moves to Bi-weekly Reporting

On December 3, The Health Emergency Operation Centre (HEOC) decided to revise health system monitoring reports from the health region EOCs and move to twice-weekly, rather than daily, reporting.

Top Health Officials Receive Their Vaccine

Health Minister Don McMorris and Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. Moira McKinnon received their H1N1 vaccine on Friday, December 4 at Robert Usher Collegiate Clinic in Regina. A photo opportunity was arranged for Minister McMorris and Dr. McKinnon to promote the H1N1 vaccination to the general population.

Vaccine Clinic Update

Starting the week of December 7 a number of regions will be either scaling back the H1N1 clinic times and locations or will be redirecting those still wanting the vaccine to public health clinics.

The Ministry has received confirmation for an additional 121,000 doses to be received starting the week of December 7. This brings the total number of doses to 758,400.

Regional health authorities are continuing their seasonal flu vaccinations program for those eligible for the publicly funded influenza program.

Highlights:

- Some regions are scaling back H1N1 clinic times and locations
- RHAs will continue to offer seasonal flu vaccination
- Decreases are reported for influenza activity levels in the province

Surveillance

Saskatchewan has reported 12 deaths in total, most with underlying conditions.

In Saskatchewan, most RHAs are still reporting ILI (Influenza-like Illness activity). However, decreases are being seen in ER ILI visit rates, Tamiflu prescriptions dispensed and respiratory symptom-related calls to Healthline.

Acute and Emergency

Although pressures are reduced in emergency rooms, there continues to be pressure on acute care capacity, particularly in the area of critical care in the provincial hospitals in Regina and Saskatoon.

Health Supplies

Materials managers in regions met on December 3 to discuss ways to track supplies once they leave the central storage of each region.

