

**Influenza Outbreak in a Long Term Care Facility (LTCF)
Kentucky Department for Public Health**

<p>This form is to be used by local health department nurses or epidemiologists to collect information and provide guidance in the early hours of an Influenza illness outbreak investigation. “Outbreak” is defined as 2 or more influenza cases within 72 hours of each other.</p> <p>Please forward this preliminary information ASAP to your assigned epidemiologist. Continue to monitor the outbreak until at least one week after the onset date of illness for the last confirmed case. If no new cases are identified after the observation period, the outbreak can be closed and this completed form should be submitted to your assigned epidemiologist. *</p> <p>* Regional Epidemiologists should submit the completed form to DPH ASAP.</p>		<p>KY 17 -</p> <p>Today's Date: _____</p>
Facility Name:	Facility Type:	
Facility Contact Person:	Facility Phone #:	
Facility City and County:	Facility Fax #:	
Outbreak Information		
Number of ill residents :	Total number of residents:	
Number of ill staff :	Total number of staff:	
Date index case became ill:	Who was the Index case = resident, staff, or visitor?	
Total number # influenza related hospitalizations:	Total number of Influenza-related deaths:	
Number of residents admitted to a hospital:	Number of residents who have died:	
% vaccination of ALL residents:	% vaccinated ALL staff:	
% ALL residents vaccinated with high dose vaccine:		
Illness Characteristics		
List predominant symptoms:		
List other symptoms:		
Average duration of illness (specify hours or days):		
Total number of rapid tests performed: _____	PCR Subtype Results: _____	
Number of positive results: _____	_____	
Number of negative results: _____		
Number of specimens sent for PCR testing: _____	Number of cases that used antivirals: _____	
Review of Recommendations to Limit Transmission*		
1. Practice good hand hygiene. Wash hands frequently with soap and water. Alcohol-based sanitizing hand gel (≥ 62% ethanol content) may be used to complement hand washing with soap and water.		

2. Confine symptomatic residents to their rooms as much as possible, including restricting them from common activities, and have their meals served in their rooms when possible.
3. Conduct Influenza testing on all residents who present with febrile respiratory symptoms especially during peak influenza activity.
4. Clean, then disinfect, contaminated surfaces with either of the following methods: Use a chlorine bleach solution with a concentration of 1,000-5,000 ppm (1:50-1:10 dilution of household bleach) for hard, nonporous surfaces OR use disinfectants registered as effective against influenza by the EPA.
5. Do not allow ill employees to return to work until 5 days after onset of Influenza-like illness and they are afebrile. Encourage good hand hygiene practices and good respiratory etiquette after returning.
6. Implement Respiratory Droplet and Contact Precautions around symptomatic individuals.
7. Avoid sharing staff members between units or facilities with affected patients and units or facilities that are not affected.
8. Limit new admissions to wards with asymptomatic individuals.
9. Limit visitation, exclude ill visitors and children via posted notices especially during community outbreaks.
10. Cancel or postpone group activities, including dining (residents should eat in their rooms) until ill residents are no longer experiencing symptoms for 48 hours.
11. Administer antiviral medication for prophylaxis and treatment of influenza to all residents and employees. Refer to the CDC's recommendations for the use of Antivirals for chemoprophylaxis and treatment of influenza in a LTCF. (https://www.cdc.gov/flu/toolkit/long-term-care/index/htm).
12. Reoffer influenza vaccination to unvaccinated residents and employees.
Submitting Specimens to the KY Division of Laboratory Services for Testing
The KY Division of Laboratory Services (DLS) will accept 1-2 viral cultures from this outbreak for testing and subtyping. Please send a viral culture on a positive or negative rapid test performed on a symptomatic patient. <i>The Local Health Department must notify Sean Benton at DLS at (502) 564-4446 before sending specimens to DLS.</i>
Conduct a site visit with an environmentalist so an inspection can be done.

*These recommendations are not required by Kentucky Law but are strongly encouraged by KY DPH.

Revised 09/2017