



SAFETY TALK

Respiratory Illness - COVID-19 & Influenza

What is a Respiratory Illness?

Respiratory illnesses impacts the airways, lungs and can affect respiration. It can be caused by a variety of viral and bacterial organisms. COVID-19 and influenza are two common types of respiratory illnesses.

How Can We Decrease the Spread of and the Severity of Respiratory Illness?

- Having up to date immunizations for COVID-19 and Influenza
- Wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Proper hand hygiene
- Staying home when sick
- Cover cough and sneezes
- Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces



Who is at a High Risk for Severe Illness from Influenza and COVID-19?

- Individuals with underlying health conditions
- Those 65 and older
- Children under 5 years of age
- Individuals who are pregnant
- Long term care residents and members of other congregated living settings
- Individuals in or from First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Communities
- People who provide essential community services

At the link below you will find a list of vaccine clinic dates, the current HPEI respiratory illness guidelines as well as a validation form for immunizations completed outside of Employee Health Clinics.

[Respiratory Illness Guidance, Documentation & Protocol | Health PEI | Staff Resource Centre](#)

Sources: [HPEI Respiratory Illness \(COVID-19 And Influenza\) Immunization and Management Policy](#)

Safety is everyone's responsibility!

DATE: _____

FACILITY: _____

SAFETY TALK LEAD BY: _____

DEPARTMENT: _____

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Where can I find information regarding COVID-19 & Influenza immunization availability within HPEI?

What is the current protocol related to respiratory illness?

EMPLOYEE CONCERNS & IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:		EMPLOYEES PRESENT:	
FOLLOW UP ON CONCERNS:			

If you have any feedback on the Safety Talks program or a suggestion for a Safety Talk, please contact a member of the Wellness & Safety Team or email healthpeihr@ihis.org.

Safety Talks can be found on the Staff Resource Centre at: <https://src.healthpei.ca/safety-talks>