

Anne Wells

From: Anne Wells
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 4:43 PM
Subject: Erie County Health Department/Erie County Community Health Center - Pandemic Influenza Annex
Attachments: ECHD-ECCHC PIRA 2020 Combined.pdf

March 6, 2020

To Our Community Stakeholders,

Attached to this email you will find Erie County Health Department's Pandemic Influenza Response Annex. This document serves as the operational framework for responding to all pandemic events identified in Erie County. We will also be delivering a hard copy of this plan to your office.

As the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) situation evolves in the United States, the Erie County Health Department (ECHD) will continue to update our stakeholders. Guidance regarding identification, prevention, and containment of COVID-19 is likely to adapt as we continue to gain more knowledge about the etiology of this novel virus. For the most updated and accurate local information, please visit <http://eriecohealthohio.org/2019-novel-coronavirus/>.

COVID-19 is a viral illness characterized by fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Symptoms are believed to begin 2-14 days after being exposed to the virus.

At this time, persons who are symptomatic and meet the following criteria are considered to be high risk:

- **Any person (including healthcare personnel) who has had close contact with a laboratory confirmed COVID-19 patient within 14 days of symptom onset.**
- **A history of travel from affected geographic areas, within 14 days of symptom onset.**
- **Symptoms that are severe and require hospitalization without an alternative explanatory diagnosis, such as influenza.**

Remember that it is currently influenza season. Therefore standard precautions should be taken: Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, avoid touching your mouth, nose, and eyes, cover coughs/sneezes with your arm, avoid exposure to others who are sick, stay home if you are ill, and clean commonly touched surfaces with household disinfectant.

We understand that with this evolving situation, it can be difficult to know what is accurate and current, which is why Erie County Health Department continues to post the most up to date guidance for our community to our website.

If you still have questions contact our COVID-19 information line at 419-626-5623 ext 284.

Thank you,

Anne Wells, RS
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