

**Ministry of Health  
and Long-Term Care**

Emergency Management Unit  
415 Yonge St., Suite 801  
Toronto, ON M5B 2E7  
Telephone: 416-212-0822  
Facsimile: 416-212-4466

**Ministère de la Santé  
et des Soins de longue durée**

Unité de gestion des situations d'urgence  
415, rue Yonge, bureau 801  
Toronto ON M5B 2E7  
Téléphone : 416 212-0822  
Télécopieur : 416 212-4466



**SEP 21 2006**

**MEMORANDUM TO:**

Steering Committee Members, Ontario Health Plan for an  
Influenza Pandemic

Sub-Committees and Working Groups Members

Communications Sub-Committee

Crisis Communications Planning Working Group

Community Strategic Advisory Committee

Public Health Sub-Committee

Vaccine and Antivirals Working Group

Surveillance Working Group

Public Health Measures Working Group

Operations Sub-Committee

Laboratory Working Group

Hospital Working Group

Critical Care Working Group

Health Human Resources Working Group

Occupational Health and Safety Working Group

Training Working Group

Paediatric Working Group

**FROM:**

Emergency Management Unit  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

**RE:**

Release of the 2006 Ontario Health Plan for an Influenza  
Pandemic

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We are pleased to inform you that the 2006 Ontario Health Plan for an Influenza  
Pandemic (OHP/IP) has been released, and is available for downloading on the  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's web site at:

[www.health.gov.on.ca/pandemic](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/pandemic). Please take the opportunity to inform your  
members and key stakeholders of the 2006 OHP/IP release.

OHPIP 2006

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is continuing to develop a provincial position on personal protective equipment (PPE), specifically masks, in the event of a pandemic. In the interest of on-going planning efforts, and to ensure furthering pandemic planning measures continue at the local level, the 2006 OHPIP is being released with a commitment of a provincial position on PPE to follow. As the 2006 OHPIP provides direction on the importance and readiness of PPE in individual health care facilities, any references to masks and/or respirators throughout the 2006 OHPIP should be interpreted in a broad manner i.e., facial protection.

We would like to advise you that the ministry will be participating in a federal consultation on PPE later this Fall. We expect this consultation will help inform a provincial position on masks. We will also be participating in federal, provincial and territorial discussions on prophylaxis and priority groups. We anticipate these discussions will also help inform a provincial policy on this matter. We will advise you on the provincial position on PPE and the policy on prophylaxis when decisions are made.

In closing, we would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank all the members of the Steering Committee, sub-committees and working-groups for contributing to the development of the OHPIP year after year. We truly value your on-going support, commitment and advice provided on this important plan. We also appreciate the countless hours you have dedicated, and we look forward to continuing to work together.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Breen at: 416-212-2075; or through e-mail at: [mark.breen@moh.gov.on.ca](mailto:mark.breen@moh.gov.on.ca)

Sincerely,



Allison J. Stuart  
Director  
Emergency Management Unit



Mark J. Breen  
A/Manager  
Emergency Management Unit

- c. Dr. Sheela V. Basrur, Chief Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Deputy Ministry, Public Health Division, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care