

Idaho Long-Term Care Facility Influenza Outbreak Tool Kit

This stand-alone collection of resources is intended to support Public Health District investigation of a long-term care facility (LTCF) influenza outbreak.

A. Background

A single case of influenza-like illness (e.g., fever greater than 100°F with a cough or sore throat) or a single positive influenza laboratory result is not reportable to public health in Idaho. However, in accordance with IDAPA 16.02.10 (<https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/16/160210.pdf>), novel strains of influenza A are explicitly reportable to public health while influenza outbreaks are reportable as an Extraordinary Occurrence of Illness. Onset of influenza-like illness in two LTCF residents within 72 hours of each other could suggest an influenza outbreak and the LTCF should notify public health.

Public health's role in responding to influenza outbreaks is supportive and may include providing education, infection prevention expertise, influenza testing through the Idaho Bureau of Laboratories, and collecting patient level information for epidemiologic analysis and to inform infection control recommendations. LTCFs are licensed by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Bureau of Facility Standards who has the authority to enforce LTCF outbreak reporting and cooperation with public health, if necessary.

The Idaho LTCF Influenza Outbreak Tool Kit is a collection of resources that can support public health district investigation of an LTCF influenza outbreak. The contents of this tool kit may be edited to meet individual public health district, LTCF, or situational needs.

B. Tool Kit Contents:

- Influenza Outbreaks, A Quick Guide for Long-Term Care Facilities
- Influenza or ILI Outbreak Line List
- Influenza Chemoprophylaxis Letter to a Healthcare Provider
- Influenza Specimen Collection Poster
- Cleaning to Prevent the Flu Poster
- STOP Respiratory Illness Outbreak Visitor Sign
- Help Protect Our Residents Visitor Sign