



Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



Enterovirus D68

On September 9, 2022 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the United States released a [health advisory](#) about an increase in pediatric hospitalization in patients with severe respiratory illness who also tested positive for rhinovirus (RV) and/or enterovirus (EV). Upon further testing some specimens were positive for enterovirus D68 (EV-D68).

Ongoing U.S. surveillance has noted a higher proportion of EV-D68 positivity in children who were RV/EV positive compared to previous years. EV-D68 primarily causes acute respiratory illness, however it has also been associated with acute flaccid paralysis (AFP). **AFP is a reportable disease of public health significance in Ontario for children less than 15 years of age.**

Action requested

Consider EV-D68 as a possible differential diagnosis of acute, severe respiratory illness (with or without fever) in children.

Testing

Laboratory testing for *Enterovirus* should be considered for patients with severe respiratory illness, neurologic symptoms suspected to be associated with viral illness (e.g. meningitis/encephalitis or acute flaccid paralysis (AFP)/acute flaccid myelitis (AFM)) or myocarditis. Persons of any age presenting with AFM, or any child less than 15 years of age with AFP should have laboratory investigations to detect a viral cause. Enterovirus testing indications and guidelines can be found on the [Public Health Ontario Lab website](#) (or search for “enterovirus” on the main PHOL website).

Reporting

AFP is a reportable disease of public health significance in Ontario for children less than 15 years of age. To report suspect and confirmed cases of AFP, please call:

- Phone: 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 ext. 2996
- Confidential Fax: 905-666-6215
- After Hours: 905-576-9991 or 1-800-372-1104

The Diseases of Public Health Significance List and Notification Form can also be found on the Reportable Diseases [landing page](#) (or durham.ca/hcp, Forms, Reporting, Diseases of public health significance).

September 21, 2022

905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | durham.ca/health

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

