

Ontario Health Plan for an Influenza Pandemic (OHPIP)



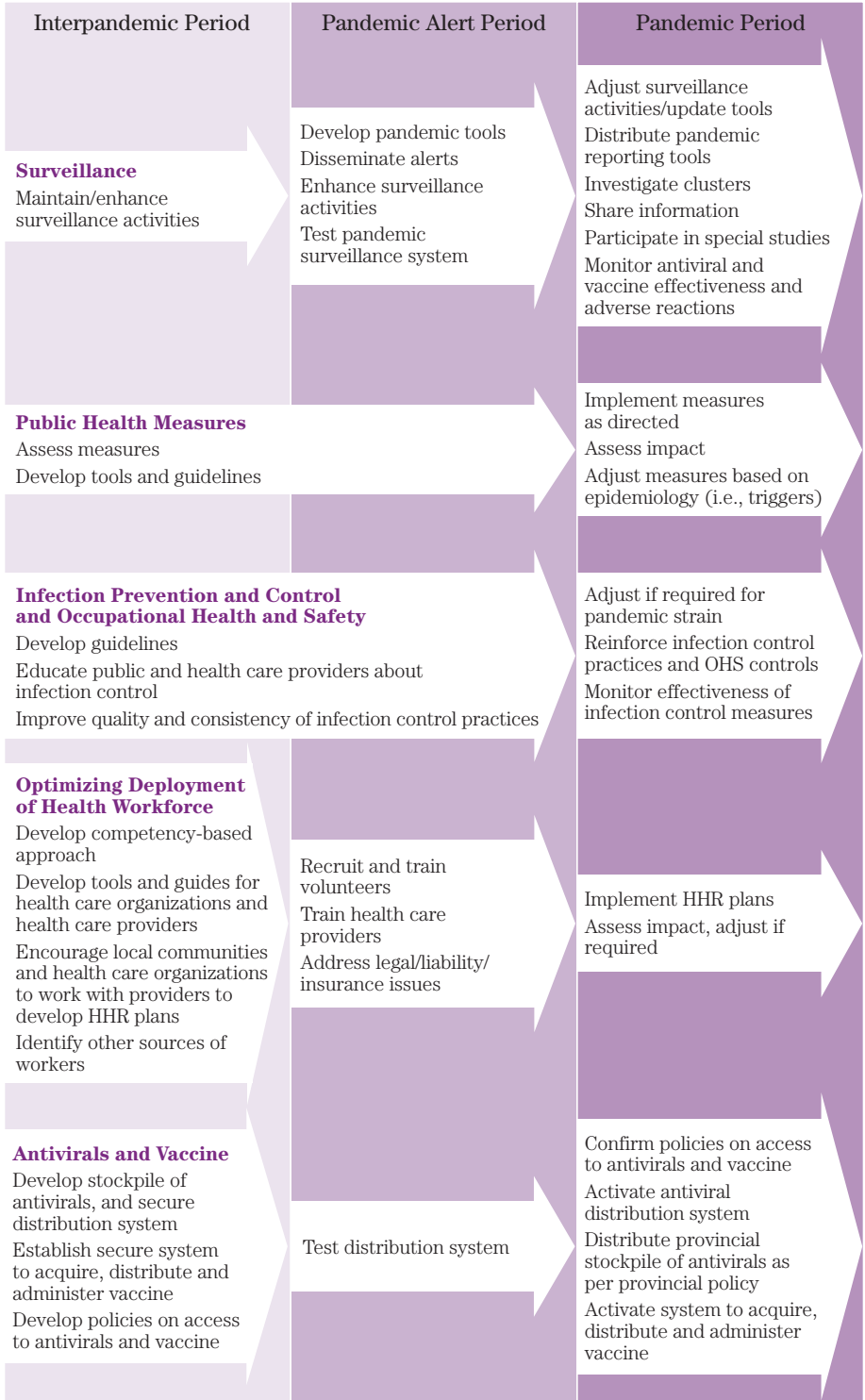


Overview of the Ontario Health Plan for an Influenza Pandemic (OHPIP)

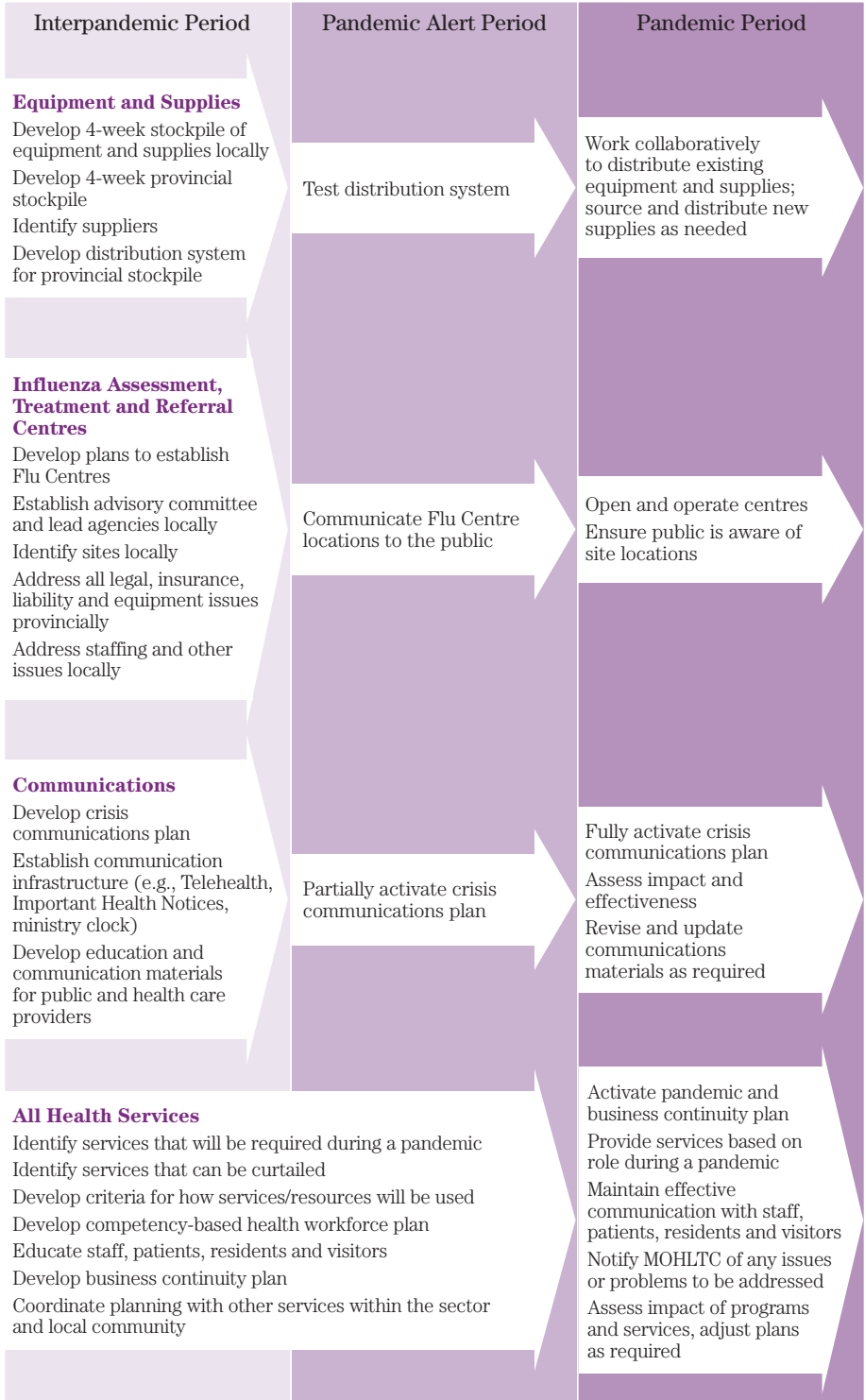
An evergreen document, OHPIP is developed through consultations with more than 400 health care experts from a broad spectrum of health care facilities, organizations, associations, labour and government.

While aligned with federal and provincial pandemic plans, OHPIP drills down to the community level by outlining expectations, planning activities and strategies for a pandemic response at the local level.

Key Activities by World Health Organization Pandemic Period



Key Activities by World Health Organization Pandemic Period (continued)



Highlights of the OHPIP

Ethical Framework

The Ethical Framework ensures that the Plan is founded on commonly held ethical values shared by all stakeholders.

Tools

OHPIP contains a variety of practical tools created to support pandemic planning and response activities at the local level, such as the draft clinical care pandemic triage protocols, patient assessment forms, guidelines for implementing Flu Centres and the Communications Toolkit for health care organizations.

First Nations

The First Nations chapter describes operational roles and responsibilities of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC), Health Canada's First Nations and Inuit Health, and First Nations organizations/communities in preparing for and responding to an influenza pandemic.

Competency-Based Human Resources Planning

OHPIP provides innovative competency-based human resources planning tools to optimize the availability of health human resources (HHR) and ensure patient-centered care.

Communication Tools for the Public and Health Care System

Ontario has a dedicated influenza pandemic website with valuable information and tools for the public and health care professionals (www.health.gov.on.ca/pandemic). Highlights of the website include fact sheets and brochures targeted for the public and health care professionals and diverse planning tools targeted at specific stakeholder groups such as faith community leaders, emergency service providers and businesses.

Public Health Measures

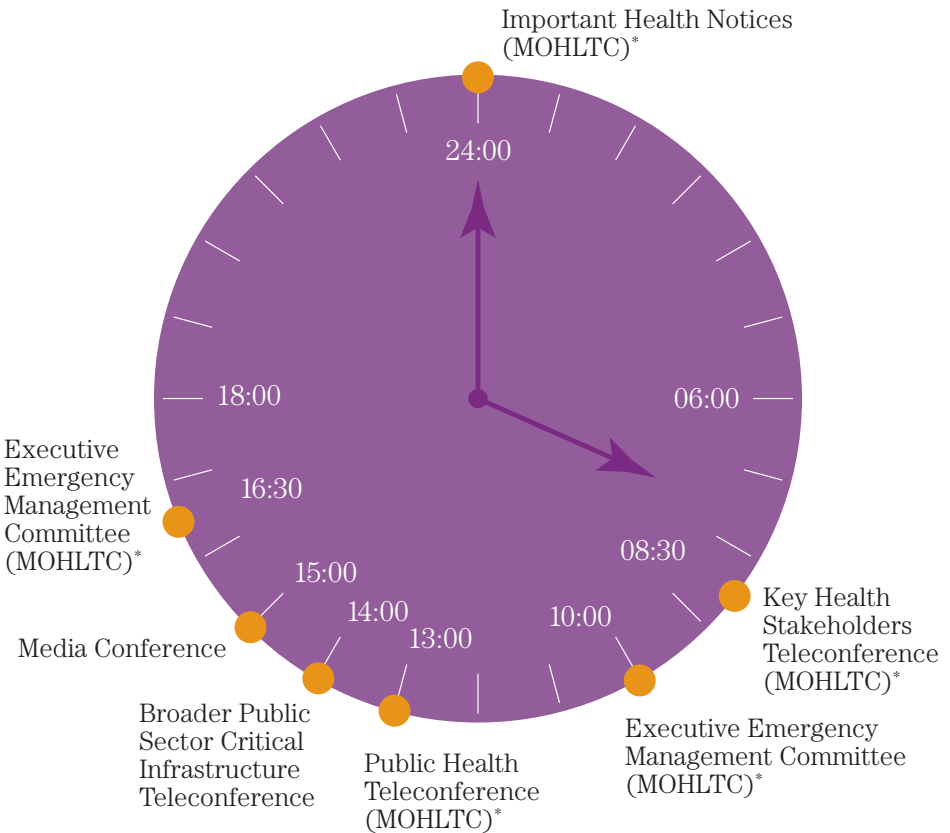
The OHPIP provides recommendations for the use of specific public health measures (e.g., school closures, limits on public gatherings, etc.) according to identified triggers based on the severity of the pandemic.

Occupational Health and Safety and Infection Prevention and Control

The OHPIP provides detailed occupational health and safety and infection prevention and control measures and checklists to ensure that health care workers and patients are protected to the best extent possible.

Information Cycle

OHPIP includes an innovative Information Cycle, which ensures that the public and health care stakeholders have regular, timely information.



*Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Paediatric Services

The new Paediatric Services chapter highlights the issues and possible strategies for meeting the unique health care needs of children during an influenza pandemic.

Laboratory Services

OHPIP outlines comprehensive guidelines for public health laboratories on suspending testing to meet the demand for influenza diagnostics and care.

Long-Term Care Homes

OHPIP provides guidelines for influenza pandemic preparedness and response in long-term care homes.

Community-Based Health Care Providers

OHPIP provides comprehensive guidelines and checklists on business continuity, and supply and equipment needs for specific community-based health care providers such as long-term care homes, mental health providers, emergency medical services, etc.

Stockpiling

OHPIP provides a framework to guide the MOHLTC's stockpiling activities for personal protective equipment for health care workers and antiviral procurement.

As of March 31, 2007, Ontario has stocked enough antivirals to treat approximately 25 per cent of the provincial population. Ontario is also actively procuring a supply of personal protective equipment for all health care workers.

Surveillance

Ontario's influenza surveillance system includes data from local health units (through the integrated Public Health Information System), laboratories and various other health care facilities.

With data collection from health units, laboratories and health care facilities, it is a scalable system that identifies and tracks virus epidemiology, spread and impact.

Ontario also participates in the federal Flu Watch surveillance system which monitors circulating strains of influenza in Canada with the intent to identify new strains and includes data collection from sentinel physicians.

Communication products

1. “*What you should know about influenza pandemic*” brochure. Available in 23 languages in fact sheet format
2. Ten fact sheets for the public in 23 languages
3. Eight fact sheets for health care professionals available in English and French
4. Personal Emergency Check List available in English and French
5. *Make-a-Plan* – a guide for personal emergency preparedness
6. Monthly issues of the Ministry’s newsletter called the *Pandemic Planner* featuring provincial updates and profiles of pandemic planning activities by community-based health organizations.

All the communication products are available online at www.health.gov.on.ca/pandemic

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Or visit the Ministry’s Website:

www.health.gov.on.ca/emergency

www.health.gov.on.ca/pandemic

www.health.gov.on.ca/avian