

Infectious Diseases Infectious Diseases Prevention And Control Standard

Dr. Douglas Sider
Associate Medical Officer of Health
Niagara Region Public Health
November 24, 2008

Overview of Presentation

- Context and History
- Comparison between Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines 1997 (MHPSG) and Ontario Public Health Standards 2008 (OPHS)
- OPHS: Infectious Diseases Program Standard Highlights
- Key/Significant Changes
- Protocols Referenced in the Standard
- Contact Information
- Questions/Discussion

Context and History

- **The OPHS 2008 approach public health standards from a different paradigm than the MHPSG 1997:**
 - As discussed in the core curriculum presentation, every standard is under-pinned by principles and the foundational activities of:
 - Population health assessment; surveillance; research and knowledge exchange and program evaluation.
 - The OPHS also acknowledge public health programs and services within the broader societal context and the Infectious Diseases Program Standard accordingly
 - The overall goal of the Standard is to prevent or reduce the burden of infectious diseases of public health importance
 - Also as addressed in the core curriculum presentation, the achievement of board of health outcomes is intended to *contribute* to the achievement of broader societal outcomes

Comparison between MHPSG 1997 and OPHS 2008

MHPSG		OPHS
Control of Infectious Diseases	Infection Control	Infectious Diseases Prevention and Control
Goal: To reduce the incidence of infectious diseases of public health importance	Goal: To reduce transmission of infectious diseases	Goal: To prevent or reduce the burden of infectious diseases of public health importance
Objective: To reduce morbidity and mortality associated with infectious diseases	Objective: To reduce morbidity and mortality associated with infectious diseases in institutions, day care centres and personal service settings	Societal Outcomes and Board of Health Outcomes

OPHS: Infectious Diseases Program Standard Highlights

Goal

- To prevent or reduce the burden of infectious diseases of public health importance.
- Infectious diseases of public health importance include, but are not limited to, those specified reportable diseases as set out in Regulation 559/91 (as amended) under the Health Protection and Promotion Act and include zoonotic diseases. Emerging infectious diseases may be considered of public health importance based on a variety of criteria, including their designation as an emerging disease by international, federal and/or provincial health authorities; their potential for preventability or public health action; and the seriousness of their impact on the health of the population and potential spread (footnote #20, OPHS p.30).

OPHS: Infectious Diseases Program Standard Highlights

Societal Outcomes

- There is reduced incidence of infectious diseases of public health importance.
- There is reduced morbidity and mortality associated with infectious diseases of public health importance.
- There is increased public capacity to prevent and control infectious diseases.
- There is increased capacity on the part of all hospitals, long-term care homes (LTCHs), and other settings with risk of infections to prevent and control infectious diseases.

OPHS: Infectious Diseases Program Standard Highlights

Board of Health outcomes

- The board of health achieves timely and effective detection and identification of cases/outbreaks of infectious diseases of public health importance, their associated risk factors and emerging trends.
- The board of health is aware of and uses epidemiology to influence the development of healthy public policy and its programs and services to prevent or reduce the burden of infectious diseases of public health importance.
- There is increased public awareness of infection prevention and control practices.
- Community partners and health care providers are aware of the local epidemiology of infectious diseases of public health importance.
- Community partners and health care providers are aware of infection prevention and control practices.
- Settings that are required to be inspected are aware of appropriate infection prevention and control practices.

OPHS: Infectious Diseases Program Standard Highlights

Board of Health outcomes

- The board of health has effective partnerships with committees, advisory bodies, and networks that address infection prevention and control practices.
- Hospitals, LTCHs, and other settings with risk of infections are able to prevent nosocomial infections and control the spread of outbreaks of infectious diseases of public health importance.
- The board of health manages outbreaks and other sporadic cases of infectious diseases of public health importance resulting in limited secondary cases.
- The board of health manages reported cases of infectious diseases of public health importance and their contacts.
- The board of health manages infection prevention and control practice complaints.
- Settings that are required to be inspected use appropriate infection prevention and control practices.

OPHS: Infectious Diseases Program Standard Highlights

ASSESSMENT AND SURVEILLANCE

Requirements:

- The reporting of infectious diseases data elements;
- Conducting of surveillance of infectious diseases of public health importance and infection prevention and control practices of inspected premises, and
- Epidemiological analysis – includes conducting analysis of surveillance data, including monitoring trends over time, emerging trends, and priority populations, in accordance with the Population Health Assessment and Surveillance Protocol, 2008.
 - Further detailed requirements are articulated in the Population Health Assessment and Surveillance Protocol 2008 and the Infectious Diseases Protocol 2008

OPHS: Infectious Diseases Program Standard Highlights

HEALTH PROMOTION AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT

- Need to work with community partners to improve public knowledge of infectious diseases of public health importance and infection control practices in a number of areas (e.g. hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette).
 - Efforts include adapting and/or supplementing national and provincial health communications strategies and developing and implementing regional/local communications strategies.
 - Participate on committees, advisory boards, or networks that address infection prevention and control practices to provide advice regarding infection prevention and control policies and procedures, surveillance systems and response plans to cases/outbreaks of disease.
 - Work with appropriate partners to increase awareness of local epidemiology of infectious diseases of public health importance, infection prevention and control practices, and reporting requirements for reportable diseases under HPPA.
- *MPHSG 1997: Control of Infectious Diseases Standard specified providing information (written material/presentations) about infectious diseases to health care professionals, institutions and community once a year.*

OPHS: Infectious Diseases Program Standard Highlights

Disease Prevention

- Ensure that medical officer of health or designate is available on a 24/7 basis to receive reports of and respond to infectious diseases of public health importance.
 - *MHPSG 1997: Control of Infectious Diseases Standard specified an on-call system that ensured 24-hour availability of appropriately trained and qualified board of health staff to respond*
- Provide public health management of cases and outbreaks to minimize public health risk.
 - *MHPSG 1997: Control of Infectious Diseases Standard specified that board of health (BOH) provide identification and appropriate response to outbreaks*

OPHS: Infectious Diseases Program Standard Highlights

Disease Prevention

- Ensure that the medical officer of health or designate receives reports of complaints regarding infection prevention and control practices and responds and/or refers to appropriate regulatory bodies.
 - *MHPSG 1997: Requirement did not exist under MHPSG*
- Ensure that the medical officer of health or designate receives reports of and responds to complaints regarding infection prevention and control practices in settings for which no regulatory bodies exist.
 - *MHPSG 1997: Requirement did not exist under MHPSG*
- Respond to local, provincial/territorial, federal and international changes in disease epidemiology by adapting programs and services.
 - *MHPSG 1997: Requirement did not exist under MHPSG*

OPHS: Infectious Diseases Program Standard Highlights

DISEASE PREVENTION

- **Supplement provincial efforts in managing risk communications to the appropriate stakeholders on identified risks associated with infectious diseases of public health importance based on local epidemiology and epidemiological information**
 - *MHPSG 1997: Requirement did not exist under MHPSG*
- **Communicate in a timely and comprehensive manner with all relevant health care providers and other partners about urgent and emerging infectious disease issues.**
 - *MHPSG 1997: Requirement did not exist under MHPSG*

HEALTH PROTECTION

- **Inspect settings associated with risk of infectious diseases of public health importance.**
 - *MHPSG 1997: Requirement did not exist under MHPSG*

Key/Significant Changes

New – IDPC Standard (2008)

- Principle based program standards
- Individual standard has clearly defined requirements and more detail
(Assessment & Surveillance, Health Promotion and Policy Development, Disease Prevention, Health Protection)
- Protocols contain detailed technical information e.g. MHPSG Infection Control Standard content now primarily addressed in protocols

Old – MHPSG (1997)

- Combined two standards into one standard (Control of Infectious Diseases and Infection Control)
- General requirements and standards combined
- Lack supportive protocols and best practice documents (only two protocols cited, “Notification of Emergency Service Workers Protocol – August 23, 2004” and “Infection Control in Personal Services Settings Protocol – January, 1998”)

Protocols Referenced in the Standard

**Infectious Diseases
Prevention and Control Standard**

Infectious Diseases Protocols

Exposure of Emergency Service Workers to Infectious Diseases Protocol, 2008

Infection Prevention and Control Practices Complaint Protocol, 2008

Infection Prevention and Control in Licensed Day Nurseries Protocol, 2008

Infection Prevention and Control in Personal Services Settings Protocol, 2008

Infectious Diseases Protocol, 2008

Institutional/Facility Outbreak Prevention and Control Protocol, 2008

Other Protocols

Population Health Assessment and Surveillance Protocol, 2008

Public Health Emergency Preparedness Protocol, 2008

Risk Assessment and Inspection of Facilities Protocol, 2008

Contact Information

For further inquiries, please contact:

- **Cassandra LoFranco, Manager, Infectious Diseases Branch**
 - **Telephone: 416-326-1270**
 - **E-mail: cassandra.lofranco@ontario.ca**

Questions/Discussion