



# Public Health Bulletin

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## *Heartland Health Region*

P.O. Box 2110, Rosetown, Saskatchewan S0L 2V0

Phone: (306) 882-4111 Fax: (306) 882-1389

Website: [www.hrha.sk.ca](http://www.hrha.sk.ca)

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February 15, 2017

For Immediate Release

To Regional Staff and Physicians, Heartland Health Region

From: Dr. David Torr, Consulting Medical Health Officer

### Respiratory Illness in Heartland Health Region

A respiratory illness outbreak has been declared in the **Kindersley and District Health Centre Long Term Care (Heritage Manor)**, effective **February 15, 2017**. Currently the **Kindersley and District Health Centre-Long Term Care** is the only facility in the region with outbreak precautions in place. Specimens have been sent to the lab to identify the cause. Staff have been working diligently in applying optimal infection prevention and control precautions which include:

- Visitor restrictions are in place and visitor restriction notices have been posted at patient doorways.
- Patients or residents who are ill with respiratory symptoms have been placed on respiratory precautions and will be restricted to their rooms until free from symptoms.
- Appropriate medication treatment or prophylaxis has been initiated.
- Admissions, transfers and discharges are affected and will be triaged.

All staff need to remain vigilant in preventing infections in our facilities and communities, as well as the following:

- If you are ill, stay at home, contact your doctor if symptoms are severe.
- Cover your cough,
- Wash your hands thoroughly, properly and frequently, particularly before and after patient/client care, washroom use, blowing your nose, and after touching surfaces.
- It is not too late to get your flu shot. Call your local public health office to schedule a time to get one.

For more information, contact:

Kerry Deibert  
Infection Control Practitioner  
Heartland Health Region  
Rosetown  
(306) 882-4111, ext. 2325

LeAnne Paproski  
Communications Coordinator  
Heartland Health Region  
Rosetown  
(306) 882-4111, ext. 2311