



**POLICY PAN-03: Case Definition for Influenza like illness/
Respiratory Tract illness**

Infection Control

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Definition:

Upper Respiratory Tract Illness (Includes common cold, pharyngitis)

The Resident must have at least 2 of the following symptoms:

- Runny nose or sneezing
- Stuffy nose (congestions)
- Sore throat or hoarseness or difficulty swallowing
- Dry cough
- Swollen or tender glands in the neck (Cervical lymphadenopathy)
- Fever/ abnormal temperature for the Resident may be present but it is not required
- Tiredness (Malaise)
- Muscle aches (Myalgia)
- Loss of appetite
- Headache and chills

Pneumonia

All of the following criteria must be met:

- Interpretation of a chest x-ray as pneumonia, probable pneumonia or the presence of infiltrate
- The Resident must have at least two of the signs and symptoms described under "Other Lower Respiratory Tract Infections"
- Other non-infections causes of symptoms, in particular congestive heart failure, must be ruled out

Lower Respiratory Tract Infections (Bronchitis, tracheobronchitis)

- New or increased cough
- New or increased sputum production
- Abnormal temperature for the Resident ≥ 38 degrees C

- Pleuritic chest pain
- New or increased physical findings on chest examination (Rales rhonchi, wheezes, bronchial breathing)

One of the following to indicate change in status or breathing difficulty:

- New-increase shortness of breath
- Respiratory rate greater than 25/minute
- Worsening functional or mental status (Deterioration in Resident's ability to perform activities of daily living or lowering of their consciousness)

Influenza-Like Illness

Both of the following must be met:

1. Fever (≥ 38 degrees C)
2. The Resident must have at least three of the following signs or symptoms:
 - Chills
 - New headache or eye pain
 - Myalgia
 - Malaise or loss of appetite
 - Sore throat
 - New or increased dry cough

Avian (or bird) Flu

Is an influenza infection in birds. Avian influenza viruses occur naturally among wild birds. The H5N1 variant is deadly to domestic fowl and can rarely be transmitted from birds to humans. There is no human immunity and no human vaccine available.

Pandemic Flu

Is a global outbreak that occurs when a new Influenza Like Illness virus emerges, to which the population has little immunity, that has the capacity to spread easily from person to person and causes serious human illness.

Acute Respiratory Illness (ARI)

ARI is a term used to describe a wide range of droplet-spread respiratory infections, such as colds, influenza-like illness (ILI) and pneumonia, which usually present with symptoms of a fever of greater than 38 degrees Celsius and new or worsening cough or shortness of breath. Note: elderly people and people who are immunocompromised may not have a febrile response to a respiratory infection.