Seeking Family Physicians

Are you a family practitioner who is...

✓ Interested in monitoring the healthcare impact of influenza?
✓ Seeking access to enhanced diagnostics?
✓ Interested in how well the flu shot is working each year?
✓ Willing to give an average of 10 minutes of your time per week?

If so...

Join the BC Influenza Sentinel Practitioner Surveillance Network

For more information, contact us:
SentinelNetwork@bccdc.ca
Phone: 604-707-2512 or 1-888-881-8886
www.bccdc.ca/SentinelNetwork

About the network

In 1977, Dr. Peter Hoogewerf, a visionary family physician in British Columbia, established Canada's first sentinel influenza surveillance network.

Since then, dedicated physicians and nurses across BC have contributed each year to help monitor the arrival, spread and healthcare impact of influenza.

In recent years, BC physicians have also become world leaders by introducing a unique approach to monitor vaccine protection each year through their sentinel surveillance network.
Join the BC Influenza Sentinel Practitioner Surveillance Network!

For nearly three decades, family physicians and nurses in British Columbia have participated in a Sentinel Practitioner Surveillance Network (SPSN) to monitor influenza-like illness (ILI) activity in the province and evaluate annual influenza vaccine effectiveness against circulating virus strains. Led by Dr. Danuta Skowronsks, Principal Investigator and Physician Epidemiologist at the BC Centre for Disease Control, we would like to invite you to partner with us in this important public health initiative.

What is involved in participating?

Each week, participating sentinel sites report the number of patients with ILI seen at their practice. A weekly logbook and an online data entry platform are available to make tracking and reporting easier. Sentinel physicians also collect a nasal or nasopharyngeal (NP) swab for influenza and other respiratory virus testing from patients with ILI, and complete a short (2-5 minute) questionnaire. Compensation is provided to participating sites annually to offset clinical costs.

What are the benefits of participating?

- Routine provincial surveillance updates on influenza and other respiratory virus activity in the community to guide interventions within your practice
- Timely influenza diagnostic test results for individual patients
- Contribution to provincial risk assessment for influenza and other respiratory viruses, and to vaccine effectiveness analysis to assess the benefits of immunization
- Access to subject matter expertise and webinar presentations
- Participate in an internationally-recognised network that is emulated in over 20 countries and informs the WHO’s annual influenza vaccine composition

If you or one of your general practice colleagues are interested in hearing more about and/or joining the BC Influenza SPSN, please contact us directly:

Sentinel Practitioner Surveillance Network
Influenza and Emerging Respiratory Pathogens Team
BC Centre for Disease Control
655 W 12th Ave, Vancouver BC V5Z 4R4
Phone: 604-707-2512 or 1-888-881-8886 (toll free)
Fax: 604-707-2516
Email: SentinelNetwork@bccdc.ca
# Sentinel Practitioner Info/Recruitment Form

I am interested in hearing more about and/or joining the BC Influenza Sentinel Practitioner Surveillance Network (SPSN):

Your name: 

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<th>First</th>
<th>Last</th>
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Organization: 

Patient population: □ Adults □ Pediatrics □ All ages

Address: 

(Line 1) 

Street | City | Prov.

(Line 2) 

Street | Postal Code

Phone: ( ) ___________ Fax: ( ) ___________

Email: ___________

Would you like to receive our surveillance bulletins? □ Yes □ No

Preferred method of contact: □ Fax □ Email □ Fax or email

**How did you hear about us?**

□ BCCDC website □ conference/publication

□ BC Divisions of Family Practice □ BCMJ online ad □ colleague

Other (please specify): 

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Thank you for your interest. Your participation is entirely voluntary. You can opt to leave the network(s) at any time without penalty.

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If joining now, please help us understand who will be involved at your site (these details can be given later, if preferred).

Number of family practitioners at site: _______

Number interested in becoming Sentinels: _______

Contact person/MOA: __________________________

Contact's phone or email: ______________________

Names of interested clinicians (if known):

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Please complete this page and return by fax or email to:

**BC influenza Sentinel Network**

Influenza and Emerging Respiratory Pathogens Team

BC Centre for Disease Control

Phone: 604-707-2512 or 1-888-881-8886 (toll free)

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