

H1N1 FACT SHEET



FOR SEIU MEMBERS

SEIU Local 1 Canada encourages all members to get the H1N1 flu shot unless you have an underlying medical condition.

Advise all members that they take all precautions, including the wearing of N95 masks, washing hands and using the alcohol based cleaners. Use gloves and gowns when interacting with patients.

All members should be encouraged to self screen for H1N1 symptoms. (Symptoms include fever, runny nose, cough, sore throat, body aches, tiredness, diarrhea and vomiting).

If you become sick, isolate yourself until 24 hours after fever and respiratory symptoms have subsided.

All members should be aware of the Joint Health and Safety Committee members. Report on any conditions and outbreaks of flu you think have compromised your health and safety.

Be aware of your facility's pandemic plan. If it does not have one, ask why not and demand the facility develop one. (It is the law).

Take all precautions when dealing with patients and residents who may have H1N1 symptoms, including social distancing, wearing proper PPE, and constant hand washing.

Be sure your employer has fit tested you for a N95 respirator. (Don't accept anything less).

Get familiar with your collective agreement language, in case you get ill. If you did not get the H1N1 flu shot, and get ill, you may be limited to the amount of time, if any, you can be compensated for.

If you do become sick at work, immediately contact your supervisor and indicate you should be isolated or leave the premises.

If you become ill at work and the H1N1 flu shot was not administered to you through no fault of your own (such as no current supply), file a WSIB claim.

Any redeployment of staff because of an emergency, such as too many employees off sick at the same time, must be negotiated with the Union. The terms of your collective agreement regarding work assignments will still apply.

Before your job duties are changed you must be trained and equipped to deal with the hazards associated with the new assignment.

If you work at a facility that is under quarantine, you will be barred from working at all other health care facilities.