

What is Influenza Like Illness (ILI)?

ILI is an acute onset of respiratory illness with **fever and cough** and **with one or more** of the following: sore throat, arthralgia, myalgia or prostration (extreme fatigue).

Note: In patients ≥ 65 , fever may not be prominent. Children < 5 years old may also have gastrointestinal symptoms.

What is Acute Respiratory Illness (ARI)?

ARI is a respiratory illness with new or worsening cough.

Who is Eligible to participate in the SPSN?

Consenting Ontario residents presenting with ILI/ARI within **7 days of symptoms onset**.

Did patient / guardian give verbal consent?

Yes

No

Continue with routine clinical care, **without** completing the SPSN questionnaire.

- A** Give consent page to the patient / guardian for their records.
- B** Proceed with filling out the requisition.
- C** Follow safety guidelines, including the use of recommended PPE, and proceed with specimen collection.

The Requisition



- Fill out the **entire** Requisition including the SPSN-VE Evaluation Questionnaire 2024-2025.

If the patient has **any** of the listed chronic conditions please mark the "YES" checkbox.

Please **DO NOT** specify the condition.

- In addition to the patient's and your contact information (full name and address) pay particular attention to the following critical elements:

- **Specimen collection date**
- **Date of ILI/ARI onset**
- **Vaccination history**

Note: Specimens with incomplete requisition may be rejected.

Collecting Patient Specimen



- Use Nasal Swab or Nasopharyngeal Swab techniques.

A demonstration of NP swab collection is available at the following web link:
<http://youtu.be/DVJNWefmHjE>

- Label the tube** with the following **2 identifiers**:

- **Patient's Full Name**
- **Date of Birth**

Note: Specimens not fulfilling this criteria will be rejected

Packaging the Specimen



- Place the tube in a bio-hazard bag and seal the bag.
- Insert the completed SPSN requisition to the outer pocket of the biohazard bag.

Notes:

Keep the specimen refrigerated @ 4°C until ready to send.

Send the specimen to your local Public Health Ontario Laboratory within 72hrs, using routine procedures.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us:

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