

September 7, 2017

Attention: Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Hospitals - Emergency Rooms / Infection Control / Occupational Health, Walk-In Clinics, Long-Term Care Homes, Retirement Homes, EMS, Corrections

## **RE: CONFIRMED HUMAN WNV ACTIVITY IN HKPRDHU JURISDICTION**

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPRDHU) has received laboratory confirmation of human WNV activity within its area (Northumberland County, Haliburton County and the City of Kawartha Lakes). To date, 2 confirmed cases and 1 probable case of West Nile Virus (WNV) have been identified.

According to *Public Health Ontario's* most recent West Nile virus surveillance data, as of August 26, 2017, there have been 24 reported (confirmed or probable) human WNV cases reported in Ontario this season and there have been 333 WNV positive mosquito pools, from 26 different health unit areas across the province. For more details, please refer to: <http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/DataAndAnalytics/Pages/WNV.aspx>

Once there are 3 lab confirmed cases (by either reactive PRNT or IgM on CSF) within a region, the PHO laboratory will no longer conduct PRNT in that region. This means that health units would no longer require a PRNT result, from that region, for a confirmed case.

Based on current information, 4 regions of the province have met this threshold including Central East (where HKPRDHU is located):

- Central West
- Central East
- South West
- Eastern

For a link to a map for the health regions of Ontario: <http://www.alphaweb.org/?page=PHU>

## **LABORATORY TESTING**

For testing information please refer to Public Health Ontario Labstract

[https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/ServicesAndTools/LaboratoryServices/Pages/West\\_Nile\\_Virus\\_Serology.aspx](https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/ServicesAndTools/LaboratoryServices/Pages/West_Nile_Virus_Serology.aspx)

**Should you require further information, please contact the Health Unit and ask to speak with a Nurse in the Communicable Disease Control, Epidemiology and Evaluation Department**

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NOTE: For easier access to the above web links, visit the Health Unit website ([www.hkpr.on.ca](http://www.hkpr.on.ca)) for electronic copies of all current – and previous – editions of *FAX Facts*. Go to the 'Resources & Forms' header at the top of the web page, and use the drop-down menu to click on the 'Health Care Professionals' section (a link to FAX Facts is posted there). A direct link is also provided below: [www.hkpr.on.ca/ResourcesForms/HealthCareProfessionals/FAXFacts.aspx](http://www.hkpr.on.ca/ResourcesForms/HealthCareProfessionals/FAXFacts.aspx)

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