



Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program

Surveillance for viral respiratory infections among inpatients in CNISP hospitals

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Background

Viral respiratory infections (VRI) cause increased morbidity and mortality in both adult and pediatric healthcare settings. Age is a key risk factor with regards to the severity, transmission and impact of VRI. The consequences of VRI are especially concerning for children and older adults with existing comorbidities or underlying conditions such as cardiac and pulmonary disease, cognitive disorders or immunosuppression. The emergence of SARS, avian influenza, novel H1N1 influenza, MERS-CoV and, recently, COVID-19 have underlined the need for data to inform infection prevention and control practices for respiratory pathogens in healthcare settings.

Rationale

A hospital's ability to appropriately manage COVID-19 and other VRI patients will be dependent on their understanding of the burden of both community and healthcare associated severe respiratory infections. This surveillance will assist in understanding the burden of COVID-19 and other VRI in adults and pediatric patients in Canadian hospitals.

A real-time hospital based surveillance system will assist in identifying high-risk groups, as well as describing risk factors and patient outcomes in order to inform public health decisions and evaluate interventions.

Short term objectives

- 1. Describe the inpatient population infected with COVID-19
- 2. Provide timely data (e.g. demographic, clinical and outcome data) to hospitals and PHAC regarding patients hospitalized with COVID-19

Long term objectives

- 1. Identify new and emerging respiratory viruses in Canadian acute care hospitals
- 2. Describe risk factors and outcomes of the pediatric and adult populations who develop VRI in order to inform infection prevention and control strategies
- 3. Facilitate intra- and inter-hospital comparison of adult and pediatric VRI rates over time
- 4. Describe nosocomial transmission of COVID-19 in acute care hospitals
- 5. Compare the epidemiology of COVID-19 infection to other viral respiratory infections (e.g. influenza and RSV) among pediatric and adult inpatients
- 6. Measure the impact of COVID-19 on antimicrobial utilization and antimicrobial resistance

Methods

Study Design

Sentinel surveillance of adult and pediatric inpatients with COVID-19 and other VRI at participating CNISP hospitals.

Site Eligibility

All CNISP hospitals are eligible to participate.

Surveillance period

Year round seasonal surveillance (July 1 to June 30)

Case Eligibility

- i. Any patient admitted to a CNISP participating hospital. All hospital inpatient wards are eligible (e.g. including long-term care, psychiatric wards, maternity wards etc.)
- ii. Patient meets the case definition below.

Case definitions

a) **COVID-19 case definition**:

A person with laboratory confirmation of infection with COVID-19

Inclusion criteria:

 Any patient identified with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 while admitted to a CNISP participating hospital

OR

- Any patient identified with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 in the 14 days prior to being admitted to a CNISP participating hospital
 - Please use your best clinical judgement when applying the 14-day time frame (i.e. date of admission could be greater than 14 days since positive COVID-19 result)
 - o If the patient has multiple positive tests, please use the date of the first ever positive test ever to determine eligibility

b) VRI case definition (excluding COVID-19):

• Positive viral culture or DFA (direct fluorescent antigen) or EIA (enzyme immunoassay) or PCR (polymerase chain reaction) for a viral respiratory tract pathogen

AND

At least one of the following signs or symptoms:
 fever (> 38 °Celsius) or single temperature >1.1°Celsius over baseline from any site (oral,
 tympanic, auxiliary), rhinitis, nasal congestion, pharyngitis, sneezing, cough, wheeze, stridor,
 apnea, dyspnea, laboured breathing, increased respiratory secretions, change in characteristics
 of chronic secretions, decreased air entry on auscultation, rales, rhonchi, decreased oxygen
 saturation, need for increased Fi02, increased ventilator support, increased suctioning or new
 abnormality on chest radiograph.

AND

• No other evident cause for the abnormality

Exposure classification for COVID-19

Once the patient has been identified with COVID-19, the case will be classified as 1) healthcare-associated acquired in your acute-care facility, 2) healthcare-associated, acquired in another healthcare facility or 3) community-associated, based on the following criteria and in accordance with the best clinical judgement of the healthcare and/or infection prevention and control practitioner (ICP).

Healthcare-associated acquired in your acute care facility (HA-YAF)

• Symptom onset ≥ 7¹ calendar days after admission to the reporting hospital and using best clinical judgement (e.g. symptom onset < 7 days, but known epi link to a positive case).

OR

• If patient is readmitted with a positive test < 7 days after discharge from hospital and using best clinical judgement.

Healthcare-associated acquired in another healthcare facility (HA-Other)

• Any patient who is identified with COVID-19 not acquired at your facility, which is thought to be associated with another healthcare facility (e.g. another acute-care facility, long-term care or rehabilitation facility etc.). Retirement homes are not considered another healthcare facility.

Community-associated

• No exposure to healthcare that would have resulted in this infection (using best clinical judgement) and does not meet the criteria for a healthcare-associated infection.

Exposure classification for VRI (excluding COVID-19)

For all other VRI (excluding COVID-19) only healthcare—associated cases are required to be reported based on the following criteria and in accordance with the best clinical judgement of the healthcare and/or infection prevention and control practitioner (ICP).

Healthcare-associated acquired in your acute care facility (HA-YAF)

• Symptom onset ≥ 72 hours (≥3 calendar days) after admission to the reporting hospital and using best clinical judgement.

OR

• If patient is readmitted with a positive test < 72 hours (3 calendar days) after discharge from your hospital and using best clinical judgement.

Healthcare-associated acquired in another healthcare facility (HA-Other)

Any patient who has a VRI not acquired at your facility that is thought to be associated with another healthcare facility (e.g. another acute-care facility, long-term care, rehabilitation facility or clinic etc.). Retirement homes are not considered another healthcare facility.

¹ 7 days was chosen as the cut-off to attribute acquisition to the hospital based on a current estimate of a median incubation of 4 days (IQR 2-7 days) for hospitalized patients with COVID-19. This is a conservative estimate and can be later re-coded based on date of admission, symptom onset and test date if required.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-guidance-management-patients.html

A weekly report form with aggregate numbers of new hospitalizations, new ICU admissions, new
patients receiving mechanical ventilation and ECMO, new deaths among patients with
laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 stratified by age group will be submitted to CNISP electronically
every Tuesday which will include all cases identified in the previous week, i.e. Sunday to
Saturday. The weekly report form will also capture the number of hospitals reporting a new
COVID-19 outbreak (Appendix A).

There are two ways that sites can choose to submit weekly data:

- Complete the form on CNPHI VRI module (this is the preferred method)
- Complete the fillable Word document and email it to CNISP (<u>phac.cnisp-pcsin.aspc@canada.ca</u>)
- 2. For weekly COVID-19 surveillance, weekly admissions will be estimated using 2020 patient admissions.
- 3. For each case that meets the case definition for COVID-19 or other VRI, a detailed patient questionnaire (Appendix B) should be completed by reviewing the patients' chart and reported to PHAC. If a patient is re-admitted, please use the following criteria to determine data submission:
 - If a patient is re-admitted within 30 days of positive test => collect all data on the same form
 - If a patient is re-admitted between 31 and 89 days after positive test => do not capture re-admission (using best clinical judgement)
 - If a patient is re-admitted \geq 90 days (3 months) after first admission = > please complete a new form and indicate the PID from the 1st form so that we may link the case data

Please submit the detailed patient questionnaires for COVID-19 cases as time permits (we recognize that hospitals are extremely busy but these data are very useful). The patient questionnaires for other VRI cases may be submitted retrospectively. Please submit data electronically on CNPHI or via email to phac.cnisp-pcsin.aspc@canada.ca.

4. If possible, please provide denominator data (Appendix C) stratified by age (<18, 18-39, 40-59, 60-79 and 80+ years). Please submit data electronically on CNPHI Web Data or via email to phac.cnisp-pcsin.aspc@canada.ca.

The data collected will include:

- 1. Total number of patient admissions
- 2. Total number of inpatient-days
- 3. Total number of ICU patient admissions
- 4. Total number of ICU inpatient-days

Data reporting

All CNISP hospitals will receive a weekly aggregate report by age group and regional/provincial level data (weekly and cumulative totals) by Friday of the reporting week. In order to calculate trends over time, only sites who have consistently submitted weekly data back to March 15, 2020 will be included in the respective figures. In addition, all CNISP hospitals will receive a monthly descriptive report based on national level data from the detailed patient questionnaires.

Zero report

For any week where your site does not have weekly data to report, please enter zero in the weekly report form and submit to CNISP either in CNPHI or email the report to phac.cnisp-pcsin.aspc@canada.ca.

APPENDIX A. WEEKLY COVID-19 REPORT FORM

CHEC Site #: Select CHEC Site.			Submiss	ion date:	yyyy-mm-dd	
Surveillance week (i.e. Sunday to	Saturday)					
Sunday:	yyyy-mm-dd	to	Saturda	y: yyyy-mn	n-dd	
Did your site declare a new COVID		for the abo	ove report	ing week?		
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown						
If yes, please provide your site's C	OVID-19 outl	break case o	definition:			
Please provide data for <u>newly</u> ^a identified lab confirmed COVID-19 inpatients for the surveillance period specified above.						
	0-17 yrs	18-39	40-59	60-79	80+ yrs	Weekly
		yrs	yrs	yrs		Total
Number of new COVID-19 hospitalizations						
1105pitalizations						
For the surveillance period specified above, please indicate the number of lab confirmed COVID-19 inpatients with the following outcomes:						

	0-17 yrs	18-39 yrs	40-59 yrs	60-79 yrs	80+ yrs	Weekly Total
Number of new COVID-19 ICU admissions						
Number of new ventilated patients						
Number of patients where ECMO support was initiated						
Number of new COVID-19 deaths						

Note: a patient may be counted in multiple categories (for instance, if patient was both admitted to the ICU and ventilated within the specified 7 days they would be included in both categories). If there is a delay in obtaining any of this information for a week please update when the data are available (for instance, if a patient was admitted to the ICU on a Friday March 12 and your system does not capture in time for that weekly report, please update the report for that week when the data are available).

If possible, for the COVID-19 hospitalizations above, please indicate the number of COVID-19 hospitalizations by acquisition

	Number	Number	Number	Unknown
	HA-YAF ^b	HA-Other ^c	CAd	
Number of new COVID-19 hospitalizations				

^aData to reflect <u>new</u> cases every week.

bHealthcare-associated acquired in your acute care facility (HA-YAF)

Symptom onset ≥ 7 days after admission to the reporting hospital and using best clinical judgement (e.g. symptom onset < 7 days, but known epi link to a positive case) OR if patient is readmitted with a positive test < 7 days after discharge from hospital and using best clinical judgement.

^cHealthcare-associated acquired in another healthcare facility (HA-Other)

Any patient who is identified with COVID-19 not acquired at your facility which is thought to be associated with another healthcare facility (e.g. another acute-care facility, long-term care or rehabilitation facility etc.). Retirement homes are not considered another healthcare facility.

dCommunity-associated

No exposure to healthcare that would have resulted in this infection (using best clinical judgement) and does not meet the criteria for a healthcare-associated infection.

APPENDIX B. COVID-19/VRI PATIENT QUESTIONNAIRE

1.	CHEC Site #: Select CHEC Site.
2.	Unique Patient ID: Enter unique patient ID. (CHEC Site #) (Year) (Case Number)
3.	Age: Enterage. Specify: Years, months or days
4.	Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Unknown
5.	Postal Code ² (first 3 digits):
6.	Direct transfer from another acute care facility? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
7.	If yes, date of admission to original acute care facility yyyy-mm-dd Unknown
8.	Date of admission yyyy-mm-dd
9.	Date of re-admission ³ yyyy-mm-dd
10.	For COVID-19 positive patients, was this patient previously admitted > 3 months prior to this admission and met the COVID-19 case definition ⁴ ? Yes, please specify unique PID: No Unknown
11.	Where was this VRI acquired? ☐ Healthcare-associated (acquired at your acute care facility) ⁵ ☐ Healthcare-associated (other healthcare facility) ⁶

Other VRI: Symptom onset \geq 72 hours (\geq 3 calendar days) after admission to the reporting hospital and using best clinical judgement OR if patient is readmitted with a positive test < 72 hours after discharge from hospital and using best clinical judgement.

² If the postal code is unknown or not available, please enter 999

 $^{^3}$ If a patient is re-admitted within 30 days of positive test => collect all data on the same form If a patient is re-admitted between 31 and 89 days after positive test => do not capture re-admission

⁴ If a patient is re-admitted \geq 90 days (3 months) after first admission => please complete a new form and indicate the PID from the 1st form so that we may link the case data

⁵ COVID-19: Symptom onset ≥ 7 days after admission to the reporting hospital and using best clinical judgement (e.g. symptom onset < 7 days but known epi link to a positive case) OR if patient is readmitted with a positive test < 7 days after discharge from hospital and using best clinical judgement.

⁶Any patient who has a VRI not acquired at your facility that is thought to be associated with another healthcare facility (e.g. another acute-care facility, long-term care or rehabilitation facility etc.). Retirement homes are not considered another healthcare facility.

	 □ Community-associated ⁷ □ Unknown
12.	If community-associated, please specify the most likely source of exposure if available Household contact of a positive case School setting Daycare setting Social contact – not school/child care Workplace/occupational Unknown Other, please specify:
13.	Is this patient a healthcare personnel (HCP) ⁸ ? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
14.	If this patient is a HCP, in the 14 days prior to their positive test, did this patient work in any of the following settings? Please check all that apply. Hospital Long-term care or retirement home Unknown Other healthcare setting, please specify: N/A
15.	If this patient is a HCP, what type of healthcare personnel is this patient? Physician Nurse (RN, RPN, NP, LPN) Respiratory therapist Dietician Environmental services Personal support/care worker/aide/orderly/PAB Volunteer Administrator Physiotherapist or Occupational therapist Social worker Paramedic/ambulance driver Midwife Pharmacist or pharmacy technician Unknown Other, please specify:

⁷ No exposure to healthcare that would have resulted in this infection (using best clinical judgement) and does not meet the criteria for a healthcare-associated infection.

⁸ Healthcare personnel is defined as any individual who works in a healthcare setting (this includes acute care and long term care).

	□ N/A
16.	If this patient is a HCP, did they provide direct care ⁹ to a COVID-19 positive patient(s) in the 14 days prior to positive test? □ Yes □ No □ Unknown □ N/A
17.	Was this patient admitted from a long-term care home¹º? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
18.	Was this patient admitted from a retirement home¹º? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
19.	Did this patientre travel outside of Canada in the 14 days prior to their symptom onset? ☐ Yes, if known please specify country: Enter country travelled to. ☐ No ☐ Unknown
20.	Did this patient receive the seasonal influenza vaccine? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
21.	Was this patient vaccinated for COVID-19? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
22.	If yes, how many doses of a COVID-19 vaccine did they receive? 1 2 Unknown
23.	If they received 1 or 2 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, was the most recent dose: ☐ < 14 days before symptom onset ☐ >= 14 days before symptom onset ☐ Unknown
24.	Primary admitting diagnosis: Please specify the reason the patient was admitted to hospital. Acute respiratory infection (e.g. COVID-19, influenza, pneumonia, ILI etc.) Elective surgery Labour or pregnancy related complication Acute coronary event Stroke Trauma Other, please specify: Click here to specify. Unknown

A long-term care home is a facility where a person resides who requires routine/daily nursing care whereas a retirement home is a place where an individual may live independently (i.e. in their own room or apartment and may gather for meals). Given that definitions and facility types vary by province, please apply the criteria above to the best of your knowledge.

⁹ Direct patient care defined as in-person patient care with or without the use of personal protective equipment.

 $^{^{11}}$ If patient was asymptomatic, please use date of first positive test Mar 25, 2021

25.	Is there evidence the patient had pre-existing comorbidities at the time of admission? Please check all that apply. No Yes (please check all that apply) Hypertension Chronic heart disease (excludes hypertension) Diabetes Lung disease (e.g. asthma, COPD) Kidney disease (includes all patients on dialysis) If yes to kidney disease, was this patient on dialysis? Yes No Unknown Dementia/Alzheimer's disease Severe neurological disease¹² Cancer (active) Obesity (as recorded in patient chart or BMI ≥30 kg/m²) Other immunosuppression¹³, please specify Click here to specify. Liver disease Pregnancy, if yes weeks of gestation Enter weeks of gestation. Organ transplant recipient Other, please specify Click here to specify.
26.	Symptoms (please check all that apply and if possible, indicate each symptom's start date): Symptom data available, please select all symptoms that apply: Symptom data available, asymptomatic Symptom data not available Cough yyyy-mm-dd Fever yyyy-mm-dd Chills yyyy-mm-dd Sore throat yyyy-mm-dd Runny nose yyyy-mm-dd Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing yyyy-mm-dd Hypoxia/desaturation yyyy-mm-dd Headache yyyy-mm-dd General weakness yyyy-mm-dd General weakness yyyy-mm-dd Pain (muscular (myalgia), joint (arthralgia), chest, abdominal) yyyy-mm-dd

¹² Includes:

a. moderate to profound intellectual disability or developmental delay

b. epilepsy or cerebral palsy if accompanied by (a)

c. neuromuscular disorders (e.g., muscular dystrophy), when associated with impaired respiratory function

d. other neurological disorders associated with impaired pulmonary function and/or difficulty handling lung secretions

¹³ Includes congenital or acquired immunodeficiency, chemotherapy, immunosuppressive drugs, chronic high-dose systemic steroids (≥ 2 mg/kg or ≥ 20 mg/day prednisone or equivalent for > 2 weeks).

	☐ Irritability yyyy-mm-dd ☐ Fatigue/lethargy yyyy-mm-dd ☐ Poor appetite/weight loss yyyy-mm-dd ☐ Dizziness yyyy-mm-dd ☐ Dehydration yyyy-mm-dd ☐ Altered mental status (e.g. confusion, delirium) yyyy-mm-dd ☐ Diarrhea yyyy-mm-dd ☐ Nausea/vomiting yyyy-mm-dd ☐ Anosmia and ageusia (loss of sense to smell and taste) yyyy-mm-dd ☐ Other, please specify Click here to specify. yyyy-mm-dd
27.	Site of respiratory infection, please check all that apply: Upper respiratory tract infection only ¹⁴ Pneumonia with or without URTI ¹⁵ Other lower respiratory tract infection with or without URTI ¹⁶ Respiratory tract infection, unspecified site ¹⁷ Other, please specify: Click here to specify.
28.	Viruses isolated (please check all that apply and specify date of specimen collection): Adenovirus yyyy-mm-dd
29.	If the virus isolated is SARS-CoV-2, was this identified as a variant strain? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
30.	If yes, please indicate the strain if available □ B.1.1.7 (originally identified in the United Kingdom) □ B.1.351 (originally identified in South Africa) □ P.1 (originally identified in Brazil)

e.g. rhinitis, pharyngitis, laryngitis, cold, epiglottitis
 Must be supported by radiographic evidence

¹⁶ e.g. bronchiolitis, tracheitis

¹⁷ unable to rule out pneumonia clinically and chest radiographic not done or not interpretable Mar 25, 2021

	 □ B.1.427/429 (originally identified in California) □ B.1.526 (originally identified in New York City) □ Other variant, please specify: □ Unknown 			
31.	Specimen type: Bronchial specimen (BAL) Endotracheal aspirate (ET) Nasopharyngeal swab/aspirate (NP) Sputum (SP) Throat swab or wash (TS) Data not available			
32.	Test: DFA: direct fluorescent antibody EIA: enzyme immunoassay M-PCR: Multiplex PCR PCR: polymerase chain reaction Other, please specify: Click here to specify. Data not available			
33.	Did this patient receive an antiviral for their current VRI? No Yes (please check all that apply and indicate each treatment's start date) Oseltamivir (Tamiflu) yyyy-mm-dd Zanamivir (Relenza) yyyy-mm-dd Amantadine (Symmetrel) yyyy-mm-dd Peramavir yyyy-mm-dd Remdesivir yyyy-mm-dd Lopinavir/Ritonavir (Kaletra) yyyy-mm-dd Ribavirin yyyy-mm-dd Other, please specify: Click here to specify. yyyy-mm-dd			
34.	Did this patient receive an antimicrobial for their current VRI? No Yes (please check all that apply and indicate each start date) Azithromycin yyyy-mm-dd Amoxicillin/clavulanate yyyy-mm-dd Cefazolin yyyy-mm-dd Ceftriaxone yyyy-mm-dd Piperacillin/Tazobactam yyyy-mm-dd Meropenem yyyy-mm-dd Vancomycin yyyy-mm-dd Doxycycline yyyy-mm-dd Other, please specify: Click here to specify. yyyy-mm-dd			

	□ Unknown		
35.	Did this patient receive a corticosteroid for their current VRI? No Yes (please check all that apply and indicate each start date) Dexamethasone yyyy-mm-dd Prednisone yyyy-mm-dd Methylprednisolone yyyy-mm-dd Hydrocortisone yyyy-mm-dd Other, please specify: Click here to specify. yyyy-mm-dd Unknown		
36.	Did this patient receive any of the following treatments for their current VRI? No Yes (please check all that apply and indicate each treatment's start date) Ibuprofen yyyy-mm-dd Angiotensin receptor blockers (e.g. losartan, valsartan, etc.) yyyy-mm-dd ACE inhibitors (e.g. captopril, enalapril, etc.) yyyy-mm-dd Hydroxychloroquine yyyy-mm-dd Other, please specify: Click here to specify. yyyy-mm-dd Unknown		
37.	Did this patient have a bacterial co-infection? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown		
	Date of positive culture yyyy-mm-dd	Site of infection Blood Wound Urine Surgical site Sputum Skin/soft tissue Endotracheal aspirate Stool Other please specify:	Pathogen(s) identified □ E. coli □ Klebsiella spp □ Pseudomonas spp □ Enterobacter □ Enterococcus spp (not VRE) □ Streptococcus □ Coagulase negative staphylococci (CONS) □ S. aureus (MSSA and unspecified S. aureus) □ Other, please specify: □ C. difficile, if possible, please specify the PID assigned to this patient for CNISP CDI surveillance: □ VRE, if a bloodstream infection, if possible, please specify the PID assigned to this patient for CNISP VRE BSI surveillance: □ MRSA, if a bloodstream infection, if possible, please specify the PID assigned to this patient for CNISP VRE BSI surveillance: □ MRSA, if a bloodstream infection, if possible, please specify the PID assigned to this patient for CNISP MRSA BSI surveillance:

		☐ CPE, if possible, please specify the PID assigned to this patient for CNISP CPE surveillance:			
38.	Did this patient have a stroke with discharge, whichever occurred first)? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unable to determi	in the 30 days following positive test (or before			
39.	Did this patient have a pulmonary embolism within the 30 days following positive test (or before discharge, whichever occurred first)? □ Yes □ No □ Unable to determine				
	INTE	RVENTIONS			
40.	Did this patient have a directive (e.g. intubation? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unable to determ	DNR order) that specified no admission to ICU and/or			
41.	Did this patient require BiPAP or CPA ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unable to	• •			
42.	If yes, total number of days on BiPAP	/CPAP: Data not available			
43.	Did this patient require dialysis (her test as a complication of their VRI?	no- or peritoneal dialysis) within 30 days of positive determine			
44.		entilation within 30 days of positive test? entilated at time of test Unable to determine			
45.	If yes, total number of days ventilate	d: Data not available			
46.	Did this patient require ECMO within ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Already or	30 days of the positive test? In ECMO at time of test □ Unable to determine			
47.	Was this patient admitted to the ICU ☐ Yes, related to VRI ☐ Yes	within 30 days of positive test? , unrelated to VRI \Box No \Box Unable to determine			
48.	Date of ICU admission yyyy-mm-dd	☐ Not applicable			
49.	Date of discharge from ICU yyyy-mm-	dd \square Not applicable \square Patient still admitted			
	30 DAY	OUTCOME			
50.	What was the patient outcome withi ☐ Patient alive, still in hospital ☐ Patient survived and discharged ☐ Patient survived and transferred	Date of discharge yyyy-mm-dd Date of discharge from re-admission yyyy-mm-dd Date of transfer: yyyy-mm-dd			

	☐ Patient died ☐ Unknown	Date of death: yyyy-mm-dd
51.	to the death VRI was the cause of death VRI contributed to death Death is unrelated to VRI ²	
52	Additional comments. Click here	

¹⁸ VRI was the cause of death (i.e. the patient had no other condition that would have cause death during this hospitalization)

¹⁹ VRI contributed to death (i.e. VRI exacerbated an existing condition that led to the patient's death)

²⁰ VRI was unrelated to death

²¹ Unable to determine the causality between VRI and death.

APPENDIX C. VRI DENOMINATOR DATA

Please submit denominator data electronically on CNPHI Web Data or via email to phac.cnisp-pcsin.aspc@canada.ca. If possible, please stratify patient admissions and patient days by age (<18, 18-39, 40-59, 60-79 and 80+ years).

CHEC Site #: Choose an item. Surveillance period: January 1 to December 31, 2020

	# patient days	#admissions	# ICU patient days	# ICU admissions
<18 years				
18-39 years				
40-59 years				
60-79 years				
≥ 80 years				
All ages				

Appendix D - Data Dictionary

1. CHEC Site

This will be the **3-character** alphanumeric number assigned to your institution. It will always begin with the two-digit number assigned to your CHEC member e.g., 07, 15, and a letter assigned by the CHEC member for that specific institution e.g., A, B, C, etc. The CHEC site # for each institution should always be the same for all the CHEC/CNISP surveillance projects and will always have all three alphanumeric digits reported as the CHEC site #, e.g., 07A, 15A.

2. Unique patient ID

This 10-character code should consist of the 3 character CHEC site # (e.g., 99Z), the surveillance year the infection occurred in (e.g., 2021), and a consecutive number starting at 001 and continuing on with each additional case. An example of the first case in an institution would be 99Z2021001. An example of the thirty-fifth case would be 99Z2021035, and so on. Please note that the surveillance year for VRI is July 1 to June 30. Example, a case with a positive test between July 1 2019 to June 30 2020 would be 99Z1920011 and a case with a positive test between July 1 2020 to June 30 2021 would be 99Z2021037.

3. Age

Please enter the patient's age at the time of positive test and please specify the age units (in years, months or days).

4. Sex

Check male, female or unknown as appropriate.

5. Postal code (first 3 digits)

Please indicate this patient's residential postal code (first 3 digits). If the postal code is unknown or not available, please enter 999 for postal code.

6. Direct transfer from another acute care facility

Please indicate if this patient was directly transferred from another acute care facility. Please only record information (e.g. antibiotics, ICU admission etc.) that occurs at your hospital.

7. If yes, date of admission to original acute care facility

If yes to Q6, please indicate the date of admission to the original acute care facility if known.

8. Date of admission

Please indicate the date when this patient was admitted to this hospital.

9. Date of re-admission

If the patient was re-admitted within 30 days of positive test, please indicate the date of re-admission.

If a patient is re-admitted within 30 days of positive test => collect all data on the same form

If a patient is re-admitted between 31 and 89 days after positive test => do not capture re-admission (using best clinical judgement)

If a patient is re-admitted \geq 90 days (3 months) after first admission = > please complete a new form and indicate the PID from the 1st form so that we may link the case data

10. For COVID-19 positive patients, was this patient previously admitted > 3 months prior to this admission and met the COVID-19 case definition?

Please indicate if this patient was previously positive 3 months or greater than the current admission. If yes, please specify the unique patient identifier from the first admission so that we may link the data. Additional information (e.g. symptoms) and viral swabs (for genetic testing) may be collected to determine re-infection.

11. Source of acquisition

Exposure classification for COVID-19

Once the patient has been identified with COVID-19, the case will be classified as 1) healthcare-associated acquired in your acute-care facility, 2) healthcare-associated, acquired in another healthcare facility or 3) community-associated, based on the following criteria and in accordance with the best clinical judgement of the healthcare and/or infection prevention and control practitioner (ICP).

Healthcare-associated acquired in your acute care facility (HA-YAF)

- Symptom onset ≥ 7 calendar days²² after admission to the reporting hospital and using best clinical judgement (e.g. symptom onset < 7 days but known epi link to a positive case).
 OR
- If patient is readmitted with a positive test < 7 days after discharge from hospital and using best clinical judgement.

Healthcare-associated acquired in another healthcare facility (HA-Other)

• Any patient who is identified with COVID-19 not acquired at your facility, which is thought to be associated with another healthcare exposure (e.g. another acute-care facility, long-term care or rehabilitation facility etc.).

²² 7 days was chosen as the cut-off to attribute acquisition to the hospital based on a current estimate of a median incubation of 4 days (IQR 2-7 days) for hospitalized patients with COVID-19. This is a conservative estimate and can be later re-coded based on date of admission, symptom onset and test date if required.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-guidance-management-patients.html

Community-associated

• No exposure to healthcare that would have resulted in this infection (using best clinical judgement) and does not meet the criteria for a healthcare-associated infection.

Exposure classification for VRI (excluding COVID-19)

For all other VRI (excluding COVID-19) only healthcare—associated cases are required to be reported based on the following criteria and in accordance with the best clinical judgement of the healthcare and/or infection prevention and control practitioner (ICP).

Healthcare-associated acquired in your acute care facility (HA-YAF)

• Symptom onset ≥ 72 hours (≥3 calendar days) after admission to the reporting hospital and using best clinical judgement.

OR

• If patient is readmitted with a positive test < 72 hours (3 calendar days) after discharge from hospital and using best clinical judgement.

Healthcare-associated any other healthcare facility (HA-Other)

Any patient who has a VRI not acquired at your facility that is thought to be associated with any
another healthcare facility (e.g. another acute-care facility, long-term care, rehabilitation facility
or clinic etc.). Retirement homes are not considered another healthcare facility.

12. If community-associated, please specify the most likely source of exposure if available

If this patient most likely acquired their infection in the community, please specify the most likely source of exposure from the list provided.

13. Is this patient a healthcare personnel (HCP)?

Please indicate if this patient is a healthcare personnel (HCP). Healthcare personnel is defined as any individual who works in a healthcare setting (this includes acute care and long term care).

14. If this patient is a HCP, in the 14 days prior to positive test, did this patient work in any of the following settings?

If this patient is a HCP, in the 14 days prior to positive test, please indicate if the patient worked in a hospital, long term care or other healthcare setting. Please check all that apply.

15. If this patient is a HCP, what type of HCP are they?

If this patient is a HCP, please indicate the type of HCP.

16. If this patient is a HCP, did they provide direct care to a COVID-19 positive patient(s) in the 14 days prior to positive test?

If this patient is a HCP, please indicate if they provided direct care to a COVID-19 positive patient(s) in the 14 days prior to positive test. Direct patient care is defined as in-person patient care with or without the use of personal protective equipment.

17. Was this patient admitted from a long-term care home?

Please indicate if this patient was admitted from a long-term care home. A long-term care home is a facility where a person resides who requires routine/daily nursing care whereas a retirement home is a place where an individual may live independently (i.e. in their own room or apartment and may gather for meals). Given that definitions and facility types vary by province, please apply the criteria above to the best of your knowledge.

18. Was this patient admitted from a retirement home?

Please indicate if this patient was admitted from a retirement home. A long-term care home is a facility where a person resides who requires routine/daily nursing care whereas a retirement home is a place where an individual may live independently (i.e. in their own room or apartment and may gather for meals). Given that definitions and facility types vary by province, please apply the criteria above to the best of your knowledge.

19. Was there travel outside of Canada in the 14 days prior to this patient's symptom onset?

Please indicate if this patient traveled outside of Canada in the 14 days prior to symptom onset. This question only applies to this patient and not close contacts. If yes, please specify the country where they traveled to.

20. Did this patient receive the seasonal influenza vaccine?

Please indicate if the patient received the influenza vaccine for the current season.

21. Was this patient vaccinated for COVID-19?

Please indicate if the patient received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

22. If yes, how many doses did they receive?

If the patient did receive a COVID-19 vaccine, how many doses did they receive?

23. If they received 1 or 1 doses, when the most recent dose received?

Please indicate if the patient received their most recent dose of a COVID-19 vaccine < 14 days before symptom onset or 14 days or greater before symptom onset. If date of symptom onset if not available, please use the date of first positive test.

24. Primary admitting diagnosis

Please select one of the response options for the reason that this patient was admitted to hospital. If a COVID-19 positive patient was admitted from a long term care or retirement home for non-

clinical reasons (e.g. home cannot cope with isolation requirements, lack of nursing support etc.), please specify and include this information in the "other" text field.

25. Is there evidence this patient had pre-existing comorbidities at the time of admission?

If yes, please select all conditions that apply from the list provided. If patient is pregnant, please specify the number of week's gestation. If the patient has an immunosuppression condition as per the definition below, please specify. If the patient has other conditions not listed, please specify under 'other'.

Chronic heart disease may include: angina, arrhythmia (e.g. atrial fibrillation), cardiomyopathy, previous myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure, congenital heart disease etc.

Note that hypertension should NOT be included under chronic heart disease.

Other immunosuppression includes congenital or acquired immunodeficiency, chemotherapy, immunosuppressive drugs, chronic high-dose systemic steroids (≥ 2 mg/kg or ≥ 20 mg/day prednisone or equivalent for > 2 weeks).

Severe neurological disease includes:

- a. moderate to profound intellectual disability or developmental delay
- b. epilepsy or cerebral palsy if accompanied by (a)
- c. neuromuscular disorders (e.g., muscular dystrophy), when associated with impaired respiratory function
- d. other neurological disorders associated with impaired pulmonary function and/or difficulty handling lung secretions

Active cancer is defined as any malignancy for which active treatment (systemic chemotherapy or RT) is scheduled, and non cutaneous malignancy not under active treatment (including lymphoma, leukemia or solid tumour not requiring active treatment, or receiving only palliative care).

Obesity defined as recorded in patient chart or BMI >30kg/m²

26. Symptoms

If symptom data are available, please select "data available, please select all symptoms that apply" and select all symptoms that apply and if possible indicate the onset date of each symptom.

If this patient is asymptomatic, please select 'data available, asymptomatic" and leave all symptoms blank.

If the data are not available, please select "data not available" and leave all symptoms blank

27. Site of respiratory infection

Please indicate all sites of respiratory infection that apply.

Upper respiratory tract infection (URTI) only (e.g. rhinitis, pharyngitis, laryngitis, cold, epiglottitis).

Pneumonia with or without URTI must be supported by radiographic evidence.

Other lower respiratory tract infection with or without URTI (e.g. bronchiolitis, tracheitis).

Respiratory tract infection, unspecified site defined as unable to rule out pneumonia clinically and chest radiographic not done or not interpretable.

28. Viruses isolated

Please select all viruses that were isolated. If other viruses were isolated, please specify. Please indicate the date the specimen for the positive test was collected. If unknown (e.g. was collected prior to hospitalization) please indicate date not available.

29. If the virus isolated is SARS-CoV-2, was this identified as a variant strain?

If data are available, please indicate if the virus isolated is a variant strain

30. If yes, please indicate the strain

If a variant strain was identified, please indicate the strain if available

31. Specimen type

Please specify the type of specimen that was collected that tested positive. If unknown, please select data not available.

32. Test

Please indicate the test conducted for the specimen which tested positive. If unknown, please select data not available. Please note that it is not required for collection or testing to be done at the admitting hospital.

33. Was this patient treated with an antiviral for their current VRI?

If this patient was treated with an antiviral, please select all antivirals that this patient received and if possible indicate the start date of each antiviral.

34. Did this patient receive an antimicrobial for their current VRI?

If this patient received an antimicrobial, please select all antimicrobials that this patient received and if possible indicate the start date of each antimicrobial. To the best of your ability, please only report antimicrobials received for this patient's VRI, no matter the duration.

35. Did this patient receive a corticosteroid for their current VRI?

If this patient received a corticosteroid, please select all corticosteroids that this patient received and if possible, indicate the start date of each corticosteroid. To the best of your ability, please only report corticosteroids received for this patient's VRI.

36. Did this patient receive any of the following treatments for their current VRI?

If this patient received any of the treatments listed for their, please select all treatments received and if possible indicate the start date of each treatment.

37. Did this patient have a bacterial co-infection?

A bacterial co-infection is defined as a positive culture obtained from any infected site with a new pathogen. If yes, please specify the date of positive culture, site of infection and pathogen identified. If an ARO for which CNISP conducts surveillance (e.g. CDI, MRSA BSI, VRE BSI, CPE) was identified, please indicate the CNISP PID so that we may link patient data. Please do not include fungal infections

38. Did this patient have a stroke within 30 days following positive test (or before discharge, whichever occurred first)?

Please indicate if this patient had a stroke either within 30 days following positive test or before discharge, whichever occurred first

39. Did this patient have a pulmonary embolism within 30 days of positive test (or until discharge, whichever occurred first)?

Please indicate if this patient had a pulmonary embolism either within 30 days following positive test or before discharge, whichever occurred first.

40. Did this patient have a directive (e.g. DNR order) that specified no admission to ICU and/or intubation?

Please indicate if this patient had an advanced planning directive (e.g. DNR) which specified that the patient did not wish to be admitted to an intensive care unit and/or be intubated.

41. Did this patient require BiPAP or CPAP within 30 days of positive test?

Please indicate if this patient required BiPAP or CPAP (including CPAP in a neonatal isolette) within 30 days of positive test.

42. Total number of days on CPAP or BiPAP

If yes to Q41 and if possible, please specify the total number of days this patient was on CPAP or BiPAP.

43. Did this patient require dialysis (hemo or peritoneal dialysis) within 30 days of positive test as a complication of their VRI?

Please indicate if this patient required dialysis (hemo or peritoneal) or continuous renal replacement therapy (CCRT) within 30 days of positive test as a complication of their viral respiratory infection. If this patient was receiving dialysis prior to their positive test, please select no and indicate in Q25.

44. Did this patient require mechanical ventilation within 30 days of positive test?

Please indicate if this patient required mechanical ventilation within 30 days of positive test.

45. Mechanical ventilation – total number of days ventilated

If yes to Q44 and if possible, please specify the total number of days this patient received mechanical ventilation.

46. Did this patient require ECMO within 30 days of positive test?

Please indicate if this patient required extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) within 30 days of positive test.

47. ICU admission

Please indicate if this patient required admission or transfer to the ICU within 30 days of positive test.

48. Date of ICU admission

If yes to Q47, please indicate the date of ICU admission

49. Date of ICU discharge

If yes to Q47, please indicate the date of ICU discharge or if this patient was still in ICU

50. What was this patient's outcome 30 days after positive test?

At 30 days after positive test, please select one of the outcome options available. Please indicate discharge, transfer or date of death if applicable.

Transferred refers to transfer to another facility; discharge refers to being discharged home (e.g. where they were living prior to hospitalization); if the patient is still hospitalized (doesn't matter which unit) in your hospital then they would be captured under 'patient alive, still in hospital'.

51. If this patient died within 30 days after positive test, please indicate the relationship of VRI to the death.

If this patient died within 30 days after positive test, please indicate if VRI was the cause of death (i.e. the patient had no other condition that would have cause death during this hospitalization); VRI contributed to death (i.e. VRI exacerbated an existing condition that led to the patient's death); VRI was unrelated to death or unable to determine the causality between VRI and death.

Revision History

Date	Revisions Made		
March 27, 2020	 Updated weekly aggregate report form (removed line list and added older age group) Added symptoms to patient questionnaire (Q13) 		
April 9, 2020	 Added question regarding if HCW provided direct patient care to COVID-19 positive patient(s) (Q7b) 		
April 20, 2020	 Updated patient questionnaire Added date of readmission Primary admitting diagnosis changed to a text field Added date of onset for each symptom Added secondary bacterial infection Added dialysis required under impact within 30 days Added date of ICU admission and discharge from ICU Added date of discharge from readmission Added comments section 		
April 28, 2020	 Added asymptomatic as a response option under symptoms Modified the COVID-19 case definition to reflect that best clinical judgement should be used for patients who are COVID-19 positive greater than 14 days prior to being admitted 		
June 11, 2020	For all other VRI (i.e. non-COVID-19 cases), a patient questionnaire is only required to be completed for healthcare-associated cases Zero report section updated to reflect reporting of zero reports for weekly data Definitions included as footnotes in questionnaire moved to Appendix D - data dictionary Q10 modified from 'long-term care facility' to 'long-term care and retirement homes' Added response options for admitting diagnosis Added the following underlying medical conditions (Q13): dementia/Alzheimer's disease and obesity Added the following under symptoms (Q14): chills, hypoxia, fatigue/lethargy, poor appetite/weight loss, dizziness, dehydration and altered mental status Q15 modified from 'type of VRI' to 'site of respiratory infection' Chloroquine removed from antiviral question (Q20) as it is captured under other treatment question (Q21) Added the following response options under 'other treatment" (Q21): Amoxcillin/Clavulin, Cefazolin, Ceftriaxone, Piperacillin/Tazobactam, Meropenem, Vancomycin and Steroid For Q22 secondary bacterial infection, added pathogen response options Removed the question 'Impact within 30 days' and created separate questions for the following: non-invasive ventilation, new oxygen requirements and dialysis required due to COVID-19 Removed 'increase in ventilator settings' question		

	 Added 'total number of days ventilated' for mechanical and non-invasive ventilation 		
Sept 18, 2020	 Beginning the week of Aug 23-29th, new age groups are collected on the weekly report form Updated denominator data collection form to collect patient days and patient admissions by age group 		
	Updated COVID-19 case definition to specify:		
	If the patient has multiple positive tests, please use the first positive test date to determine eligibility		
	 Any patient who has met the case definition in the past and is re-admitted to a participating hospital with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 identified either during their re-admission or in the 14 days prior to being re-admitted 		
	 Please complete a questionnaire for every admission that occurs within 14 days of a SARS-CoV-2 positive test 		
	The following changes were made to the patient questionnaire:		
	 For consistently with other CNISP surveillance projects, added the first three digits of the patient's postal code Added 'was this patient previously admitted and me the COVID-19 case definition' 		
	 Under primary admitting diagnosis the following response options will be combined under acute respiratory illness: FRI, ILI, COVID-19, pneumonia, ARD Added 'has this patient tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 in the three months prior to this positive test' 		
	Added 'if CA, please specify the source of exposure if available' Changed healthcare worker to healthcare personnel.		
	 Changed healthcare worker to healthcare personnel Added 'setting where HCP worked in 14 days prior to positive test' Added 'type of HCP' 		
	Removed steroid response option from 'other treatment' and created specific guestion asking about receipt of corticostoroid, type and data.		
	 question asking about receipt of corticosteroid, type and date. Added date of positive culture and site of infection to question regarding secondary bacterial infection 		
	 Also collecting CNISP PID if CDI, MRSA BSI, VRE BSI and CPE are identified among COVID-19 patients 		
	 Added 'did this patient have a stroke within 30 days of positive test?' Added 'did this patient have a pulmonary embolism within 30 days of positive test? 		
	 Updated non-invasive ventilation question from "Did this patient require non-invasive ventilation (e.g. BiPAP, CPAP) within 30 days of positive test?" to "Did this patient require BiPAP or CPAP within 30 days of positive test" 		
	 Removed question regarding 'did this patient require new oxygen requirements?' 		

Oct 20, 2020	 Clarified COVID-19 case definition: If the patient has multiple positive tests, please use the first positive test related to this admission date to determine eligibility Updated the following question from "Did this patient have a secondary bacterial infection?" to "Did this patient have a bacterial co-infection?" Updated criteria to indicate that continuous renal replacement therapy (CCRT) should be captured under Q33. Did this patient require dialysis (hemo or peritoneal dialysis) within 30 days of positive test as a complication from COVID-19 infection? Updated definition of long term care or retirement home to include facilities such as a private or public care home, residential assisted living building or a nursing home with varying levels of care for older persons. This excludes group homes for persons with developmental disabilities, mental health or addiction issues. For primary admitting diagnosis if a COVID-19 positive patient was admitted from a long term care or retirement home for non-clinical reasons (e.g. home cannot cope with isolation requirements, lack of nursing support etc.), please specify and include this information in the "other" text field. Added the following definition regarding data submission for re-admitted patients: If a patient is re-admitted between 31 and 89 days after positive test => collect all data on the same form If a patient is re-admitted between 31 and 89 days after first admission => please complete a new form and indicate the PID from the 1st form so that we may link the case data Date of re-admission (that was removed Sept 28th) have been added back in. Clarified the following question: "Was this patient previously admitted ≥ 3 months prior to this admission and met the COVID-19 case definition? Clarified the following question: "Did this patient receive an antimicrobial for t
Nov 30, 2020	 The following question was added to the weekly report "Did your site declare a new COVID-19 outbreak for this reporting week?" If yes, please provide your site's COVID-19 outbreak case definition.
Dec 7, 2020	Hypertension was added as a separate response option and is no longer collected under chronic heart disease

Mar 25, 2021

- Updated long term objectives
- Updated data collection and submission section to reflect new VRI CNPHI module and additional data collection (e.g. # new outbreaks)
- Added question regarding direct transfer from another acute care facility and date of admission to the original acute care facility
- Where SARS-CoV-2 was isolated, added question to identify which variant strain was identified
- Added new questions regarding influenza and COVID-19 vaccination
- Added new question to determine if the patient had a directive that specified no intubation or admission to ICU
- Split question "was this patient admitted from a long term care or retirement home" into two separate questions
- Under primary admitted diagnosis, pregnancy related complications are included with labour
- Updated pre-existing comorbidities as follows:
 - Added the following question: "if yes to kidney disease, was this patient on dialysis?"