

Ministry of Health

Office of Chief Medical
Officer of Health, Public
Health

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Ministère de la Santé

Bureau du médecin
hygiéniste en chef,
santé publique

Boîte à lettres 12
Toronto ON M7A 1N3

May 20, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Hospitals

**FROM: Dr. Kieran M. Moore
Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ontario**

**RE: Revised Chief Medical Officer of Health Order regarding Severe
Acute Hepatitis of unknown origin in Children**

The purpose of this memo is to notify public hospitals that I have issued a revised Order under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*, requiring all public hospitals to report cases of severe acute hepatitis of unknown origin in children to Public Health Ontario (PHO). The revisions to the Order include an update to the case definition, PHO's contact phone number, and a link to our public-facing website where all memos and a copy of the Order reside.

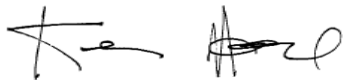
The Order continues to outline the requirements for data collection and further instructions regarding reporting and sharing information with PHO. Only cases reported to PHO that meet the case definition outlined in Appendix A of the Order will be captured in the provincial number and shared with the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). Furthermore, cases that meet the case definition in Appendix A of the Order and reside in another province will be reported to PHAC by the province of residence.

This is being done out of an abundance of caution, working collaboratively with the PHAC and PHO, since as of October 2021, at least 348 probable cases of acute hepatitis of unknown origin in children up to 16 years of age have been reported to the [World Health Organization](#) by 21 countries. Information regarding the aetiology of these cases continues to be investigated globally.

As a reminder, should your public hospital plan to issue any media statements, we request that these be shared in advance with the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health at IDPP@ontario.ca. For more information on acute hepatitis and communications released by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, please visit

https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/acute_hepatitis/default.aspx.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kieran Moore', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kieran Michael Moore, MD, CCFP(EM), FCFP, MPH, DTM&H, FRCPC

Chief Medical Officer of Health