Flowchart:

Respiratory Outbreak

Suspect Outbreak when: Two cases of acute respiratory tract illness occurring within 48 hours in a geographic area (e.g. unit, floor)

OR

One case has been laboratory confirmed.

Does each ill resident have at least two of the following new	
symptoms?	
Fever or abnormal temperature	
Runny nose or sneezing	
Nasal congestion	
Sore throat, hoarseness or difficulty swallowing	
Dry or congested cough	
Fatigue (malaise) or muscle aches (myalgia)	

- 1. Contact the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, phone: 807-625-8318. After hours dial 807-625-1280 and ask for ID on call
- 2. Initiate Outbreak Control Measures:
 - Isolate ill residents under droplet/contact precautions
 - Reinforce hand hygiene (staff and residents)
 - Increase frequency of cleaning
 - Exclude ill staff from the workplace

A confirmed outbreak will be declared with any further progression of the suspect outbreak (additional cases or laboratory confirmation). Follow Outbreak Control Measures Checklist for ongoing guidance.

- Obtain an Outbreak Number from the Health Unit
- Initiate resident & staff line listing and fax to the Health Unit DAILY: 807-625-4822
- Collect NP specimens from symptomatic residents & select "COVID-19 Virus AND Respiratory Virus" box on requisition
- Send samples to public health lab, ensuring patient setting and OB number is written on requisition - all testing may not be completed if this information is missing
- Submit samples to lab as soon as possible and no later than 72 hrs after collection