



# Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



## Andes Hantavirus

Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome has been a reportable disease in Ontario since 2001 and is very rare. Since 2001 there have been no cases of hantavirus in Durham Region or Ontario. Recently, a cluster of confirmed and suspected Andes strain (ANDV) of hantavirus infections has been identified among passengers of the MV Hondius cruise ship. At this time, all known Ontario contacts associated with this cluster are in contact with public health and the overall risk to the public in Ontario remains low.

### Actions Requested

If individual infected with hantavirus, Andes strain (ANDV), or who was exposed to ANDV, present to a clinic or hospital, clinicians should **assess for the presence of an epidemiological link**, including:

- Travel on an identified flight associated with a confirmed case
- Direct contact with a confirmed or suspected case associated with this cluster of hantavirus cases

For patients with an epidemiological link **and** compatible symptoms; airborne, contact and droplet precautions should be implemented. For detailed IPAC recommendations see [Public Health Ontario's May 8, 2026 At A Glance: Infection Prevention and Control Precautions for Hantavirus, Andes Strain](#).

If no epidemiological link is identified, patients can be managed according to routine clinical practice.

### Reporting

Hantavirus is an immediately reportable disease in Ontario. **Prior to initiating any testing or arranging patient transfer, health care providers are asked to:**

- **Contact Durham Region Health Department:**
  - Phone: 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 ext.1813
  - After Hours Phone: 905-576-9991 or 1-800-372-1104
- **AND, contact the 24/7 Provincial Health Care Provider Hotline** (1-866-212-2272, ext. 1) and follow the [Notification Pathway for Special Pathogens](#)

### Additional Information

PHAC - [Rapid risk assessment: Hantavirus \(Andes virus\) outbreak on international cruise ship](#)

PHO – [At a Glance: Infection Prevention and Control Precautions for Hantavirus \(Andes strain\)](#)

May 14, 2026

905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | [durham.ca/health](http://durham.ca/health)

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

