

To enroll or get more information about **TARRANT Viral Watch**, please complete this form and fax it to TARRANT Viral Watch, ATTENTION: Karen Rivera.

FAX: 403.270.4329

- I'm interested in becoming a TARRANT Viral Watch Sentinel. Please send me the start-up package.
- I'm interested in learning more about TARRANT Viral Watch. Please send me more information.

Name: _____

Practice Name: _____

Type of Practice: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Email address: _____



FACULTY OF MEDICINE | UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FAMILY MEDICINE

TARRANT
WATCH **VIRAL**

Contact TARRANT

403.220.2750 Phone
403.270.4329 Fax

Tarrant@ucalgary.ca

Tarrant Viral Watch
G012 Health Sciences Centre
3330 Hospital Drive NW
Calgary, AB T2N 4N1

Tracking Influenza in Alberta

TARRANT Viral Watch is the provincial surveillance program for Influenza in Alberta. We detect Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) as it occurs in the community and confirm clinical diagnoses of influenza in the lab.

Data is collected by sentinel sites and is compiled by **TARRANT** prior to being forwarded to Alberta Health and Wellness, the Public Health Agency of Canada, and ultimately the World Health Organization.

Why does Alberta do year-round surveillance for influenza?

- Most years, Alberta is the first province in Canada to encounter influenza.
- Surveillance can help detect epidemics and changes in circulating strains of the virus. We learn whether strains match the vaccine, and their drug resistance.
- Pandemic influenza could occur again at any time, with resulting social and health implications.

What do sentinel sites do?

Sentinels are asked to:

- Take nasopharyngeal specimens from all patients presenting with Influenza-Like Illness
- Complete a special lab requisition form and obtain consent from patients who want to be included in the Vaccine Effectiveness Study
- Send the specimens and the completed requisition forms to Alberta ProvLab
- Record the number of patients with ILI and Lower Respiratory Tract Infections (LRTI) and the total number of patients seen each day of the week on the Weekly Incident Report form
- Fax the Weekly Incident Report form to (403) 270-4329 every Monday or enter the information into our online reporting systems on our website

What are the benefits of being a TARRANT Viral Watch sentinel?

- CME credits (Mainpro M2)
- Fast turn-around on patient lab results - often within 24 hours - and even during high-flow times when the lab is only accepting swabs from certain sources
- All expenses paid invitation to TARRANT's Annual General Meeting which brings together recorders and experts on influenza
- \$5 for every Weekly Incident Report Form submitted
- \$10 for every sample that is submitted with the completed requisition form for the Vaccine Effectiveness Study
- Newsletters and updates on Influenza activity in Alberta and Canada
- The satisfaction of being part of a surveillance team contributing to the Canadian and global picture of Influenza activity and vaccine effectiveness

Email us at
tarrant@ucalgary.ca

Call us at 403.220.2750

Visit our website at
www.tarrantviralwatch.ca