

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

**TARRANT**  
WATCH **VIRAL**

## Contact TARRANT

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403.270.4329 Fax

tarrant@ucalgary.ca

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University of Calgary  
1635, 1632-14th Ave NW  
Calgary, AB T2N 1M7  
[www.tarrantviralwatch.ca](http://www.tarrantviralwatch.ca)

*Tracking Influenza in Alberta*

The goal of **TARRANT Viral Watch** is to detect Influenza-Like Illness as it occurs in the community and to measure influenza virologically in the lab.

Data is collected by sentinel sites and is compiled 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?

- Every year, Alberta is the first province in Canada to encounter influenza
- Surveillance can help detect epidemics and changes in circulating strains of the virus
- Pandemic influenza could occur at any time, and when it does there will be tremendous social and health implications.

### What do sentinel sites do?

**Weekly year-round** sentinels are asked to:

- Take nasopharyngeal specimens from two patients presenting with Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) and send the samples 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

**November to April** sentinels participate in a Vaccine Effectiveness Study that is looking at the effectiveness of the seasonal influenza vaccine. During this period we ask sites to:

- Swab all patients who present with ILI
- Complete a special lab requisition form
- Sentinels are paid \$10 for every sample that is submitted with the complete requisition form during the study period.

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

- Fast turn-around on patient lab results—often within 24 hours
- All expense paid trip to attend our Annual General Meeting which brings together recorders and experts on influenza
- Newsletters and regular updates about influenza activity and surveillance in Alberta
- \$5 for every Weekly Incident Report submitted
- CME credits
- The satisfaction of being part of an important surveillance team and a really interesting research project

Email us at  
[tarrant@ucalgary.ca](mailto:tarrant@ucalgary.ca)

Call us at 403.220.2750

Visit our website at  
[www.tarrantviralwatch.ca](http://www.tarrantviralwatch.ca)