

Alberta Health Services

**Influenza Assessment Clinics**

Infection Prevention and Control Perspectives

**Influenza Assessment Centres:  
Providing relief for Calgary's Emergency Rooms and Urgent Care Centres**

## Initial Planning

- Started during the first wave (spring 2009)
- Stakeholders identified
- Purpose/service defined
- Site selection criteria developed
- Visits to proposed sites conducted

## Purpose

Initial proposal included:

- Screening/basic assessment (may include swabbing)
- Self-care education and reassurance
- Referral to other care providers
- Coordinate patient access to ED/UCC

\*Short-term, minor treatment and prescriptions for antiviral therapy were added to the scope a bit later.

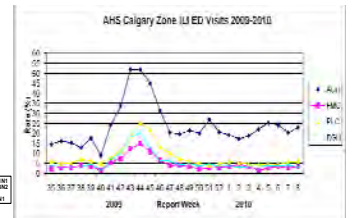
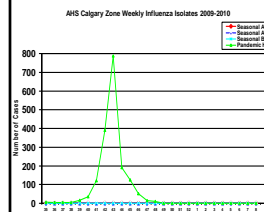


## Site Selection Criteria

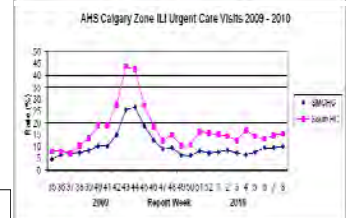
- Separate entrance, one-way flow desirable
- Infrastructure for clinical examination (space, furniture, sinks, etc)
- Support areas (clean/soiled utility rooms, PPE donning/doffing stations)
- Telephone and AT infrastructure
- Access to public transit and parking
- Central locations to populations 'at risk'

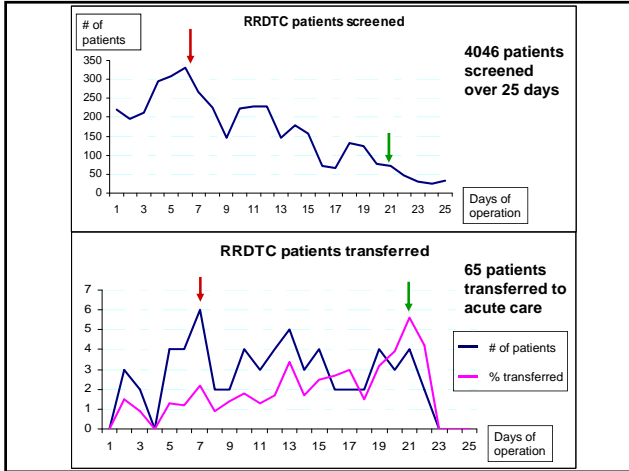


## H1N1 Phase 2 in Calgary Urban Centres



Graphs generated from information collected by AHS Calgary Zone Communicable Diseases Unit





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## Calgary's IAC: Richmond Road

- Open from Oct 30 to Nov 23/2009
- Intake hours 0800 to 2000 (staffed 0700 to 2300)

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## Operations and staffing


- Clinical space: reception (waiting/initial screening), primary assessment and secondary assessment/treatment
- Admin area and staff lounge located outside of IAC footprint
- Initial staffing plan changed as dictated by clinic needs

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**But no one is perfect...**

***And there were challenges!***





  
**Calgary's IAC: Richmond Road**

Challenge #1: getting the right people to the right place



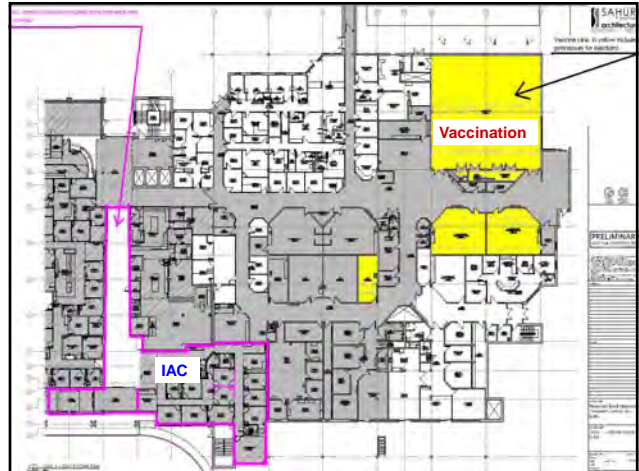
IAC entrance  
 Surface entrance to vaccine clinic (around the side of the building)  
 IAC parking (surface lot)  
 Under-ground parking for all other clinics and services

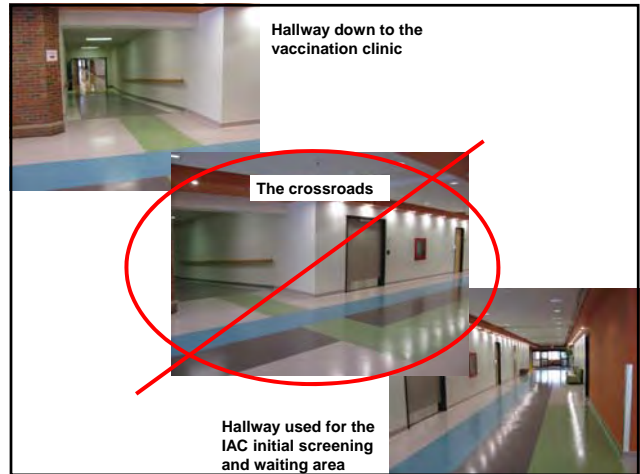
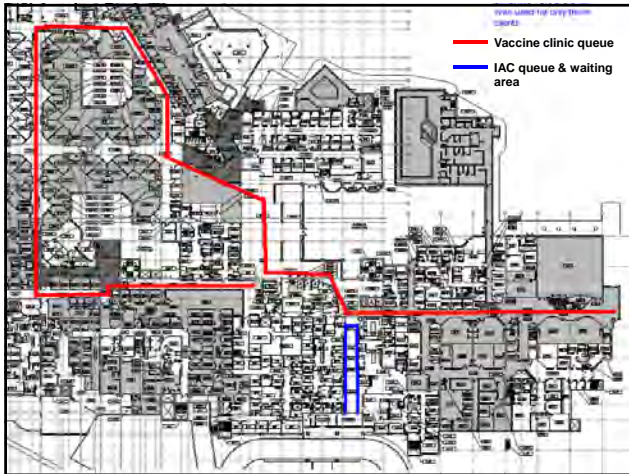


Challenge #2: Avoiding cross-over



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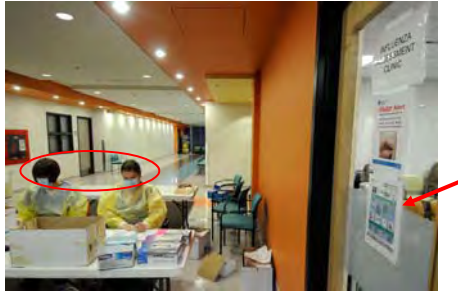



**Challenge #3: Social distancing**



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**Challenge #4: PPE training and utilization**



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## Challenge #5: Waste management

- Defining biohazard waste
- Decommissioning – what to do with supplies?



## Survival of influenza viruses on surfaces (Bean B, et al. JID 1982;146:47-51)

- Plastic and stainless steel
  - Recoverable for > 24 hours
  - Transferable to hands up to 24 hours
- Cloth, tissue
  - Recoverable for 8-12 hours
  - Transferable to hands 15 minutes
- Viable on hands <5 minutes only at high viral titers



## Other questions or discussion?

