

ALA Questions & Answers
June 5, 2003

1. If a tourist travelling by plane is running a fever or exhibiting any SARS related symptoms at the time of departure from Canada, what can happen?

- At Pearson International and Toronto Island airports, Health Canada has provided Health Alert Notices that direct departing domestic and international travellers not to travel if they think they may have symptoms of SARS. There is also a toll-free line (1-800-454-8302) listed for more information, and medical professionals are available on-site to assist as necessary.
- The notices include key health related questions that travellers on selected international flights must answer before proceeding with their travels.
- Airline check-in personnel confirm that the cards have been completed. If the traveler responds affirmatively to any of the questions, they will be referred to Health Canada personnel on site for further assessment.
- In addition, a pilot project at Pearson and Vancouver airports will evaluate experimental temperature monitoring equipment to assist with the early identification of SARS.

2. If a tourist is travelling by car, will they be examined before departing from Canada? How will anyone know if those tourists have a fever or are exhibiting SARS related symptoms?

- The federal government oversees border crossings and airports. Information is being supplied to travelers to allow them to determine if they may have any SARS symptoms. If travelers feel they may have been exposed, they should isolate themselves and contact health officials.

3. Are private duty nurses available in Toronto?

- Although the ministry does not offer private nursing services, these services are available. For further information, please contact the Ontario Nurses Association:

Ontario Nurses Association, Toronto

85 Grenville Street, Suite 400, Toronto ON M5S 3A2

(416) 964-8833, Toll Free 1-800-387-5580, Fax (416) 964-8864

onamail@mail.ona.org

4. Which hospitals are safe?

- Hospitals continue to screen patients and take infection control protocols seriously, so people going to hospitals should be reassured that there is little or no risk to patients not directly in contact with a SARS unit.

5. If I injure myself at the Convention Centre or surrounding hotels, which hospitals am I likely to be taken to? How far are these hospitals from the Convention Centre?

- If you are injured and require the assistance of an ambulance to transport you to an acute care hospital, the Toronto Central Ambulance Communications Centre will dispatch the ambulance to the most appropriate hospital.
- If you do not require the assistance of emergency medical service transport, you are free to decide which hospital with an open emergency department that you would like to visit.
- The following hospitals are located in the downtown core and are accepting emergency patients:
 - **Mount Sinai Hospital**
600 University Avenue
Toronto ON M5G 1X5
Tel : 416-596-4200
Fax : 416-586-8787
 - **Womens College Hospital**
76 Grenville Street
Toronto ON M5S 1B2
Tel : 416-966-7111
Fax : 416-323-7311

- **Toronto General Hospital**
200 Elizabeth Street
Toronto ON M5G 2C4
Tel : 416-340-3111
- **Toronto East General and Orthopaedic Hospital**
825 Coxwell Avenue
Toronto ON M4C 3E7
Tel : 416-461-8272
Fax : 416-469-6559
- **Toronto Western Hospital**
399 Bathurst Street
Toronto ON M5T 2S8
Tel: 416-603-2581

6. Which sites were exposed to SARS during the second bout and quarantined people?

The following hospital sites have had known transmission of SARS:

- St. John's Rehabilitation Hospital (Cummer Ave., Toronto)*
- North York General Hospital (Leslie and Sheppard)*
- Scarborough Hospital General site

*Please note that these hospitals are no longer experiencing working quarantine (quarantine of health care workers).