

# Research Seminar Series

Dalla Lana School of Public Health

Thursday March 18, 2010, 12:00pm

## Pandemic H1N1 2009: Science on the Run

Brian Schwartz, MD, CCFP(EM), FCFP

Director, Emergency Management Support, Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion  
Scientific Advisor, Emergency Management Branch, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care



### Seminar Description:

Public health decisions are driven by evidence, but what happens when evidence on a novel influenza virus lags behind the outbreak? Dr. Schwartz will review the processes and challenges in accessing, assessing and analyzing scientific evidence for practical application in the midst of an evolving outbreak. In particular, he will focus on the assessment and inclusion of results of clinical and population-based studies that had an impact on the planning and delivery of public health and patient-based interventions during the recent H1N1 pandemic.

### Guest Speaker Biography:

Dr. Brian Schwartz is Director of Emergency Management Support for the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion, and Scientific Advisor to the Emergency Management Branch of the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. The OAHPP supplements and supports the Province in its emergency planning and response by providing improved access to a broad range of scientific and technical expertise. In these roles, Dr. Schwartz chaired the Ontario Scientific Response Team as part of the provincial pandemic H1N1 2009 response.

Dr. Schwartz practiced Emergency Medicine for over 30 years in both community and academic settings, and in that capacity served as base hospital medical director for Toronto EMS, as well as the city's special operations and emergency response teams for more than 15 years. In 2003 he was Vice-chair of the SARS Scientific Advisory Committee.

Dr. Schwartz is an Associate Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at University of Toronto.

### Health Sciences Building

155 College Street, Room 610  
Toronto, ON M5T 3M7

For more information contact:

[stephanie.dorego@utoronto.ca](mailto:stephanie.dorego@utoronto.ca)

Tel: \*1 (416) 978-8606



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DALLA LANA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

