



COVID-19 DIGEST

MEDICAL STAFF

Friday, June 5, 2020

Note: Starting next week, this update will be distributed on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

For the latest news and resources on COVID-19, visit the [Coronavirus page on OurNH](#) or on the [physician website](#). Printable PDFs of these updates are on the physician website.

Provincial case counts and statements

As of June 4, 2020, there were **64** confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Northern Health region.

For the latest provincial numbers, please refer to the [BC COVID-19 dashboard](#), which is updated each afternoon. The dashboard may not work in all browsers; Chrome is suggested.

[Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response](#) – June 4, 2020

Regional guidelines for COVID-19 ventilator humidification

- Humidification of the ventilator circuit is the highest standard of care for patients requiring ventilator support.
- Use of humidification in COVID-19 or suspected COVID-19 patients is a clinical decision and at the onset of treatment the patient should be placed on a “dry” circuit that is fitted with a heat and moisture exchange filter.
- Every filter change necessitates a break in the patient circuit and poses a threat of aerosolizing potentially infectious pathogens to the air.

See the [full guidelines](#).

BCCDC immunization guidance and updated school health priorities for 2019/20 school year

- A [new memo](#) has been released regarding BCCDC immunization guidance and updated school health priorities for 2019/20 school year. The memo includes the following info:
 - The BCCDC has added a new section to the April 9 Communicable Disease Control Manual providing [guidance to immunization providers on the prioritization of infant, childhood, and adult immunization programs during the COVID-19 pandemic](#).

- Updated guidance is provided for immunization and school health priorities for the remainder of the 2019/20 school year (follow-up to the [School Health Priorities memo](#), dated August 23, 2019).

Use of masks on infants, toddlers & children under 2 years is not recommended

- Masks/face coverings, visors/eye protection are not made to be used on infants/children under the age of 2 years.
- Hand sanitizer should not be used on preterm or newborn infants; when children under the age of 6 are using hand sanitizer, they should be supervised.
- Parents and caregivers should remind children about physical distancing from other people outside their immediate households, and frequent handwashing.

Helpful links:

- [Information for Health Care Providers: Putting Face Masks on Infants, Toddlers, and Children Under 2 Years of Age to Protect Against COVID-19](#)
- [Information for Families: Putting Face Masks on Infants, Toddlers, and Children Under 2 Years of Age to Protect Against COVID-19](#)

PAIN BC webinar: PAIN + CPN: An online database summarizing pain research in plain language

- **Date:** June 11, 12 pm
- [Register here](#)

In this webinar, Dr. Alfonso Iorio will provide a detailed overview of [PAIN + CPN](#), a free online database that summarizes emerging pain research in plain language. PAIN + CPN is updated regularly with articles that are reviewed and rated for clinical relevance and general interest by both health care professionals and people living with chronic pain.

Physicians in self-isolation

If you're a physician in self-isolation, email Susan Trenholm: Susan.Trenholm@northernhealth.ca

Resources for stress and emotional support

Support Lines

- **Employee Family Assistance Program (EFAP)**
 - **1-844-751-2133** – 24/7 crisis counselling support and/or referral to community resources.
- **Physician Health Program** – supports available through Doctors of BC
 - Refer to information online at: [Doctors of BC: Physician Health Program](#)
- **BC Crisis Line**
 - Call **310-6789** for access to 24/7 crisis services.

- **VictimLink BC**

- If you or someone you know is experiencing violence, immediate crisis support for victims of family or sexual violence is available through [VictimLink BC's](#) 24/7 telephone service in multiple languages at [1-800-563-0808](tel:1-800-563-0808), or by email at VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca, to be referred to the closest service agency.

Trusted links and resources

- [BC Centre for Disease Control](#)
- [BC Centre for Disease Control "new today" page](#)
- [HealthLink BC COVID-19 page](#)
- [WHO FAQ](#)
- [Health Canada FAQ](#)
- [COVID-19 content in other languages](#)
- WorkSafe BC - [COVID-19 information and resources](#)
- [BC Physician Wellness in COVID-19](#) (BC COVID-19 Medical Student Response Team)
- Northern Health COVID-19 Online Clinic & Information Line: **1-844-645-7811**
- Northern Health Environmental Health Officer Line: **1-250-565-7322**
- For **non-medical information or to report concerns regarding non-compliance with public health orders**, call **1-888-COVID19 / 1-888-268-4319** 7 days, 7:30 am - 8 pm

For current information on restrictions on travel, gatherings and other issues, see the [Provincial Health Officer's webpage on current health topics](#).

24/7 Physician Call Centre

- Number: 250-645-7897
- Local: 507897
- Toll Free: 1-833-645-7897

Rural Outreach Support group (ROSe) for COVID-19

24/7 additional information, support, or guidance

- Toll Free: 1-888-918-0626