



MEDICAL STAFF DIGEST

A twice-weekly update for medical staff

Tuesday, June 16, 2020

Medical staff updates will be sent out Tuesday and Thursday. 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 15, 2020, there were **65** confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Northern Health region. Although only one case is considered active, it is important that we remain vigilant in our communities.

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

[Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response](#) – June 15, 2020

New order set: Clostridium difficile infection treatment for adult inpatients

A regional order set for [management of CDI in adults](#) has been created by the Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee with additional stakeholder review. *C difficile* infection (CDI) remains one of the most common infections acquired in a healthcare setting and it impacts both patient safety and efficiency of healthcare delivery.

Northern Health did not previously have a standardized order set for management of this high-burden infection. The new regional order set has been developed to include recent guideline recommendations, and recommendations specific to our local infection patterns/treatment response. This will be implemented at all inpatient NH facilities.

For any questions regarding this order set please contact the AMS program coordinator at alicia.rahier@northernhealth.ca.

Feedback requested: Draft policy

The NH Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee requests your input on the [draft policy for Infectious Disease Consultations for Prolonged Duration Intravenous Antimicrobials](#). After reviewing this proposed policy, please provide your feedback/input via the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/D672W85>. The deadline for feedback is **July 7th, 2020**.

New Lifeguard app launched to help prevent overdoses

To help save more lives and ensure people who use drugs alone have access to the supports they need, the [Provincial Health Services Authority \(PHSA\)](#), in partnership with regional health authorities and [Lifeguard Digital Health](#), has launched a new made-in-B.C. resource called the *Lifeguard App*.

The app is another tool in the province's tool box to ensure a comprehensive response to the overdose crisis in British Columbia.

The app is activated by the user before they take their dose. After 50 seconds the app will sound an alarm. If the user doesn't hit a button to stop the alarm, indicating they are fine, the alarm grows louder. After 75 seconds a text-to-voice call will go straight to 9-1-1, alerting emergency medical dispatchers to a potential overdose.

For more information, see the [full story](#).

Northern Health transitioning from Skype for Business to Microsoft Teams

NH is moving away from Skype for Business to a new collaboration and communication platform, Microsoft Teams, which offers the same features that you're used to, plus more!

There's no cost to you, no limit on meeting durations, and the maximum number of meeting attendees is in the thousands. Microsoft Teams also provides videoconferencing, file sharing, and more.

This is a provincial effort to create a common collaboration tool across all health authorities.

Watch for more announcements and an OurNH page (coming soon!) with links to background documents on Teams, more information, training, and more.

Reminder: Give Northern Health Emergency Management your feedback on NH's COVID-19 response

Northern Health Emergency Management is interested to hear from you: What's working well, what challenges or barriers do you see, and what recommendations do you have for improvement? **You can provide feedback multiple times.**

Click to provide your feedback now:

<https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/NHCOVID19responsefeedback>

This tool will remain open throughout the COVID-19 response for you to submit thoughts or feedback as they occur. Your responses are anonymous. Questions? Contact Research.Evaluation@northernhealth.ca.

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