



MEDICAL STAFF DIGEST

A twice-weekly update for medical staff

Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Medical staff digests are sent out Tuesday and Thursday. For the latest news and resources on COVID-19, visit the COVID-19 pages [on OurNH](#) or on the [physician website](#). Printable PDFs of these digests are available on the [physician website](#).

Provincial case counts and statements

As of June 22, 2020, there were **65** confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Northern Health region. Although no cases are 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 Monday-Friday. The dashboard may not work in all browsers; Chrome is suggested.

[Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response](#) – June 22, 2020

From Board and Executive: A heartfelt thank you

Northern Health's Board and Executive would like to recognize the hard work, commitment, and caring demonstrated by all NH staff and physicians during this COVID-19 outbreak. Please see this video, recently recorded by Cathy Ulrich, NH President and CEO, and Colleen Nyce, NH Board Chair: [Thank you from Northern Health's Board and Executive](#)

NH Code Blue Guideline including the pregnant patient now in effect

The BC Critical Care Working Group and BC Perinatal Services continue to work with health authority leads to develop clinical guidance for COVID-19 patients.

It is now recommended that all staff use appropriate PPE when responding to Code Blue activations, regardless of the patient's COVID-19 status: see updated [memo](#).

The NH Critical Care Program has partnered with the NH Perinatal Program to develop the new [Code Blue Algorithm and Activation Guideline to include the Pregnant Patient](#) for use in our region.

CON Clinic in-person consultations - pandemic recovery phase

It's now appropriate to increase the number of in-person consultations at CON Clinics. When increasing the number of in-person consultations and visits, CON Clinic staff and physicians should follow protocols set forth by the Workplace COVID-19 Safety Plan for their facility and those prescribed by their professional colleges. Please read [full memo](#) for additional information.

Update on supply of critical care drugs

In response to considerable increases in demand for particular critical care medications across Canada, NH Pharmacy Services had previously advised that conservation strategies be strongly considered for propofol, midazolam, ketamine, fentanyl, cisatracurium, and salbutamol and ipratropium inhalers. Due to our ability to access adequate ongoing supply of these drugs to meet our current clinical needs, we are confident that conservation measures can be lifted at this time. For full details, please see the [memo](#).

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>

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 COVID-19 webpage](#).

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