



MEDICAL STAFF DIGEST

A twice-weekly update for medical staff

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

Medical Staff Digests are sent out every Tuesday and Thursday.

Sections

COVID-19.....	1
Overdose prevention and response	2
Other organizational news.....	2

COVID-19

NH's COVID-19 resources

For more COVID-19 information, see these OurNH pages:

- [COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\)](#)
- [Pandemic Recovery Toolkit](#)
- [Physician website](#)

Provincial case counts and statements

As of August 31, 2020, there were **154** confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Northern Health region. **31** cases are considered active. As always, 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. Surveillance reports for COVID-19, which includes breakdown of cases by Health Service Delivery Area, are [posted every Thursday on the BCCDC website](#).

- [Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response](#) – August 31, 2020
- [BCCDC Surveillance report](#) – August 27, 2020

Trusted links and resources for COVID-19

- [BC Centre for Disease Control](#)
- [HealthLink BC COVID-19 page](#)

- [WHO FAQ](#)
- [Health Canada FAQ](#)
- [COVID-19 content in other languages](#)
- WorkSafe BC - [COVID-19 information and resources](#)
- 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 info**, 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](#).

Overdose prevention and response

What you can do to support those at risk of an overdose during COVID-19 in your community

The current Provincial [Overdose Alert](#) as well as the [NH Overdose Alert](#) continue. Please be aware that the current drug supply is extremely toxic. Recent reports includes contamination of both opioids as well as stimulants. It is important to be aware that all drugs may be contaminated.

What you can do:

Northern Health (NH) has deemed harm reduction services as an essential service during the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency. It is important to ensure that necessary healthcare and harm reduction services targeting this vulnerable population are open within communities. Many overdose prevention sites continue to provide drug checking services.

Outreach services offering phone screening and supply distribution to clients to minimize contact and promote physical distancing.

Additional Resources to support clients during the COVID-19 pandemic:

- [Supporting Harm Reduction Distribution in the Context of COVID-19](#)
- [COVID-19 Resources for NH Staff and Community Partners Working with Populations who Experience Vulnerabilities](#)

Other organizational news

News from Across NH

Your feedback is needed to help improve medical staff onboarding at Northern Health

We're currently reviewing and revising the onboarding process for medical staff coming into Northern Health. We know that this process can be better, and we're committed to

making onboarding a smooth and easy experience. For this to work, we are going to be relying very heavily on input from medical staff.

A survey has been created to gather and sort medical staff feedback. We invite you to complete the survey and share your experiences and suggestions with us. The survey has no end date, so please feel free to share this with your network.

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

We appreciate your input into this process.

Check your own health information online! Sign up for our HealtheLife patient portal – you could win an iPad!

HealtheLife is an online service that lets you see your own results for microbiology, radiology, pathology, and lab. You can also check your own hospital-based appointments. HealtheLife is open now for NH Staff and medical staff as a free trial.

If you take part in the trial, you could win one of three iPads – draws will take place in September and October! To sign up for the trial, [send us an email](#) with the last 4 digits of your Personal Health Number in the body.

Everyone who has signed up for the HealtheLife trial since the launch on August 21 will automatically be entered in the draw. All you have to do to enter the draw is to sign up for the trial. [See full contest details.](#)

(Note: The trial is for NH staff and medical staff only for now – no family members or friends yet).

Your feedback is important – tell us how we can improve! You have 2 feedback options and we encourage you to use both:

1. Email patient.activation@northernhealth.ca with the great, good, bad, or ugly. We want it all!
2. Complete the short survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/HealtheLifeSurvey>

For more information visit [HealtheLife on OurNH.](#)

Survey feedback requested: Using a patient experience video for professional development

We are inviting you to watch a 25-minute video, and complete a 5-7 minute survey, to identify ways to use Jack and Sally's story as a training or professional development tool in your area. As leaders, we encourage you to share this invitation with your team.

[Click here for the survey and link to Jack and Sally's story.](#)

Jack and Sally's Story is a video created from a Northern Health patient journey mapping session that occurred in September 2016. Patient journey mapping is a quality improvement tool that can help health care providers, educators, and administrators in understanding the patient's perspective.

Thank you in advance for your time and valued input.

Share your thoughts on getting health care by video, phone or text: One week left!

Virtual health care is health care you get by video, phone, or text. It's also called digital health care. The [Rural Coordination Centre of BC](#), one of Northern Health's partners, is asking everyone in Northern BC what a successful virtual health care experience would look like for them – take part and share your thoughts!

[Click to take the survey now](#) (it's 100% anonymous). The survey closes Sept. 9 – only one week left to take part!

Your ideas will help planners set priorities and create virtual care opportunities for people in the north.

Thank you in advance for taking part! The results will be shared...watch for details!

Most recent winners of the Staff Lottery

Wondering who won the most recent Spirit of the North staff lottery? Winners are drawn every payday. There are two ways to find out:

- Visit the [NH Staff Lottery section](#) on the Spirit on the North website and scroll down to see details on the winner(s)
- For ongoing updates, subscribe to the RSS feed on this topic:
 1. On OurNH, go to the [RSS feed page for the NH Lottery](#)
 2. Click the large blue "All NH- NH Lottery" in the top left corner.
 3. You'll see a list of dates – click the most recent one to see a list of winners.
 - Example: [Current list of winners from Sept. 13, 2019 through August 14, 2020](#)

Did you know? You can sign up for the staff lottery any time! Just fill out [this form](#) and send it to NH Corporate Payroll at payroll.corporate@northernhealth.ca (**not** to the Spirit of the North).

To meet gaming laws, you'll have to renew your signup form each year in September – watch for an announcement coming soon!

Staff wellness and more

Resources for staff wellness are available in the right hand sidebar under the heading “Resources for stress and emotional support” on both the [COVID-19 page](#) and the [Pandemic Recovery Toolkit page](#) of Northern Health’s staff intranet, OurNH.

For more information on [staff deals](#), the [NH Community Corner](#), and [RAARs](#), visit [OurNH](#).