

Date:	September 17, 2020
To:	All Northern Health Staff and Physicians
From:	Dr. Ronald Chapman, VP Medicine, Northern Lead
Cc	Chief Operating Officers Medical Directors
Re:	Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) – COVID-19 In-House Testing Update **Northern Health Covid Reagents back to current capacity**

Northern Health Covid reagents are back to current daily testing capacity.

Effective immediately, all patient's groups with the **exception** of Community outpatients (**CMM**), **SCHOOL** and Tree Planters (**TREPL**) will be tested in-house during regular Microbiology operating hours.

Requisitions and samples should be marked with the following patient groups in RED	
Code	Criteria/Category
HOS	Hospitalized Symptomatic pregnant women in their 3 rd trimester Renal Patients Cancer Patients receiving treatment Emergency department with intent to admit
LTC	Resident of a long term care facility
OBK	Outbreaks, clusters or case contacts
HCW1	Health care worker – direct patient care
HCW2	Health care worker – indirect patient care
CMM	Community outpatients Primary Care Clinic or COVID-19 Collection Clinic Emergency Department (non-admitted) COVID-19 Surveillance
FN-CMM	First Nation Specific Locations due to remoteness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fort St James area communities: Takla Lake, Yekooche, Tl'azt'en, Nak'azd'li • Finlay Hub area communities: Kwadacha, and Tsay Keh Dene • Fort Nelson • Coastal Tsimshian: Gitgaat, Kitkatla, Lax Kwalaams, and Metlakatla • Tahltan (Telegraph Creek) and Iskut
CGT	People attending or living in congregate settings such as day cares, camps, correctional facilities, shelters, group homes, assisted living and seniors' residences.
TREEPL	Tree Planters
SCHOOL	People attending school in-person including students, teachers and support staff

Other urgent requests for testing can be discussed with a pathologist on a case-by-case basis.

For further information or questions, please contact the medical leads Dr. Randall Dumont and/or Dr. Kamran Azar through Lisette Vienneau, Regional Director of Diagnostic Services at Lisette.vienneau@northernhealth.ca