



# COVID-19 DAILY DIGEST

MEDICAL STAFF

Thursday, April 16, 2020

Physician updates will be sent out Monday to Friday. 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 April 15, 2020, there were **30** confirmed COVID-19 cases in NH.
- **Province of BC statistics:**
  - Confirmed cases: **1561** (**44** new)
  - Deaths: **75** (**3** new)
  - In hospital: **131** (**59** in ICU)
  - Recovered: **955**
- [Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response](#) – April 15, 2020

## New dashboard provides detailed look at BC data

For data broken down by health authority, see the [BC COVID-19 dashboard](#) (may not work in all browsers; Chrome is suggested).

## New code blue guideline now in effect

- The new NH [Code Blue Algorithm and Activation Guideline](#) is now available to support clinical decision making throughout the pandemic.
- The Provincial Critical Care Working Group continues to work with Health Authority Critical Care Leads to develop clinical guidance for COVID-19 patients in our province.
- It is now recommended that **all staff** use appropriate PPE when responding to Code Blue activations, regardless of the COVID-19 status.

## Non-essential escorts during aeromedical transport

Following advice from our paramedics, health partners and air carriers we have decided to [suspend all non-essential escorts until further notice](#). This action has been taken in order to protect staff and patients and to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 within the aviation environment.

**Essential escorts are considered:**

- All medical personnel required for the direct provision of care in transport: (physicians, perfusionists, etc.)
- Non-medical escorts required for direct care for special needs situations
- Maternal, Neonatal and Pediatric:
  - Mother-baby dyad: maintain, even when mother has been discharged post-partum or when mother is actively breast-feeding
  - An awake child (i.e. any age child who would require supervision at the receiving site, and where they will not already be receiving one to one nursing)

**Food donation process**

Northern Health (NH) staff and physicians may be asked to accept food donations by local businesses wanting to support the local healthcare facility during the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is important to ensure extra precautions are taken to align with required public health measures and to ensure highest levels of food safety for meals/food provided to Northern Health staff and physicians before accepting the food donation.

A [process](#), [flowchart](#), and [checklist](#) have been developed to help guide sites and businesses with the procedures to be followed before accepting food donations for staff and physicians.

**Physicians in self-isolation**

If you're a physician in self-isolation, email Susan Trenholm: [Susan.Trenholm@northernhealth.ca](mailto:Susan.Trenholm@northernhealth.ca)

**Resources available 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.

**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](#)
- Northern Health COVID-19 Online Clinic & Information Line: **1-844-645-7811**

- 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 webpage on current health topics](#). This page has links to the latest joint statements and orders issued by the Provincial Health Officer and a link to the Government of Canada's travel advice and advisories.

### **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