



COVID-19 DIGEST

MEDICAL STAFF

Friday, May 1, 2020

Physician updates will be sent out Monday, Wednesday, and 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 30, 2020**, there were **46** confirmed COVID-19 cases in NH.
- **Province of BC statistics:**
 - Confirmed cases: **2,112** (**25** new)
 - Deaths: **111** (**2** new)
 - In hospital: **82** (**30** in ICU)
 - Recovered: **1,322**
- [Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response](#) – April 30, 2020

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).

Updated emergency department regional response algorithm

- The [emergency department regional response](#) algorithm with guiding principles has been updated to include the new BCCDC screening and testing criteria.

Regional trauma team resuscitation algorithm now available

- The COVID-19 pandemic has brought forth important considerations for the appropriate management of trauma cases while limiting transmission of the COVID-19 virus to health care workers.
- Trauma Services BC (TSBC) has produced the document "[Recommendations for Major Trauma Management During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)" which provides guidelines for the management of major trauma within the province.
- Working from this framework, Northern Health has developed the [Regional Trauma Team Resuscitation Algorithm](#) as a summary of the important changes stemming from the provincial guidelines.

For further details, see the [full memo](#).

Prevention and treatment recommendations for PPE skin injury

- Skin injury can occur from moisture, pressure and friction associated with wearing PPE,
- Recommendations are now available from Northern Health on [how to keep your skin healthy and prevent skin injury while using PPE](#).

Updated PPE FAQ now available

- The [PPE FAQ document](#) has updated guidance on:
 - Neck covers
 - Double gloving
 - Surgical masks
 - PPE for service providers temporarily on a unit

Admissions to long-term care homes and assisted living facilities

- In order to support the health needs of those waiting in community for placement in long-term care (LTC) homes and assisted living (AL) facilities, the Ministry of Health is now recommending that:
 - LTC homes and AL facilities resume admissions from the community as per their previous waitlists and in alignment with policy and health authority processes.
 - LTC homes and AL facilities continue to prioritize admissions from acute care.
- However, as outbreaks in LTC and AL continue to be a risk, the Ministry of Health, with input from the Provincial Health Officer, advises that:
 - All admissions from community into both publicly funded and private LTC and AL beds/units must follow local and provincial requirements for infection prevention and control procedures.
 - As per the Public Health Agency of Canada recommendations, residents being admitted from the community should be placed under isolation with droplet and contact precautions for 14 days on arrival to the facility. They should be preferentially admitted to a single room if available, or semi-private with curtains drawn between beds, maintaining at least 2 metres between residents.

For further details, see the [full memo](#).

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.

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**
- 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