



# COVID-19 DIGEST

MEDICAL STAFF

Monday, May 11, 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 May 9, 2020**, there were **56** confirmed COVID-19 cases in NH.
- **Province of BC statistics:**
  - Confirmed cases: **2,330** (**15** new)
  - Deaths: **129** (**2** new)
  - In hospital: **69** (**21** in ICU)
  - Recovered: **1,659**
- [Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response](#) – May 9, 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).

## Regional guidelines for anesthesia during the COVID-19 pandemic

- As the COVID-19 situation evolves, and with less hospital inpatient admissions than anticipated, establishing 'new normal' routines for surgical services is necessary.
- Airway manipulation, including intubation and manual ventilation during general anesthesia, are aerosol-generating medical procedures (AGMPs). To address this, specific [guidelines for anesthesia](#) in Northern Health facilities have been developed. This document is aligned with the final [Provincial IPC Protocol for Surgical Procedures During COVID-19](#).
- The guidelines balance the risk of spread of infectious disease with our duty to provide safe, quality surgical service to patients, including obstetrical patients, based on risk assessment.

For more information, see the [full memo](#).

## Q & A: Asymptomatic Testing, Clinical

- In an effort to reduce confusion among front-line staff regarding testing requirements, Northern Health's Population & Public Health team has designed a [Q & A document for testing asymptomatic individuals for COVID-19](#).
- "Asymptomatic" refers to people who have not had symptoms of COVID-19. This guidance does not apply to people who are asymptomatic following a recent episode of confirmed or probable COVID-19 infection.

## UPDATED: NH Regional Emergency Department Algorithm with Guiding Principles for COVID-19

The [Emergency Department algorithm](#) has been updated to incorporate new BCCDC screening guidelines.

## UPDATED: NH Transfer Algorithm with Guiding Principles for COVID-19

The [Regional Transfer algorithm](#) has been updated to incorporate new BCCDC screening criteria.

## Be part of a WorkSafe BC campaign! Deadline is Wednesday May 13

Send us a photo of you and/or your colleagues in the workplace to show how you're doing your part to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Your photo could be used in a WorkSafe BC social media campaign or commercial!

Please see [guidelines \(OurNH link\)](#) for what types of photos they're looking for, and a [photo release \(OurNH link\)](#) that needs to be signed by everyone included.

Please send photos to [communications@northernhealth.ca](mailto:communications@northernhealth.ca) by end of day May 13, 2020.

## 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 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