



COVID-19 DIGEST

MEDICAL STAFF

Wednesday, May 20, 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 19, 2020**, there were **60** confirmed COVID-19 cases in NH.
- **Province of BC statistics:**
 - Confirmed cases: **2,446** (**2** new)
 - Active cases: **325**
 - Deaths: **146** (**3** new)
 - In hospital: **45** (**12** in ICU)
 - Recovered: **1,975**
- [Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response](#) – May 19, 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).

Clinical guidelines for COVID-19 available on the physician website

- Northern Health has created an easily accessible section on the physician website for COVID-19-related clinical guidelines. The [COVID-19 page on the physician website](#) includes guidelines for:
 - Acute care
 - Primary care
 - Treatment
 - Ethical guidance
 - Response guidelines
 - Visiting guidelines
 - Palliative care
 - Vulnerable populations
 - People who use substances
- Previous physician digests, memos, BCCDC modelling and projections, and documents/posters are also available on the COVID-19 page.

Resources for providing in-person care during COVID-19

Several resources have been made available for those looking to resume in-person services. More information will be released as it comes available.

- College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia: [Resumption of services in non-hospital facilities: FAQs for facilities.](#)
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia: [Providing in-person community care during COVID-19: guidance for registrants.](#)
- Doctors of BC: [COVID-19 page updates.](#)

A message to parents and caregivers of children

- Health care for your child is safe. Offices, clinics and hospitals have the correct supplies and procedures in place to keep everyone safe during your visit. Your family can still get essential medical care.
- Very few children and youth have become seriously ill from COVID-19. It is safest for your child to get the medical care they need, like routine immunizations. The risks of not seeking medical care can be much higher than the risks of your child getting sick from COVID-19.
- If you are unsure if your child needs medical care, use the red, amber and green direction in the resource linked below to help you decide. If your child has symptoms of COVID-19 call ahead to the hospital or clinic, if you can, to tell them you're coming.

For more information, see the [full message from Child Health BC.](#)

Northern Health Emergency Management wants your feedback on NH's COVID-19 response

As staff and physicians directly or indirectly involved in NH's COVID-19 response, your perspective is an important part of how we will build improvements.

Northern Health Emergency Management is interested in hearing from you; what's working well, what challenges or barriers do you wish could be removed, and what recommendations do you have for improvement?

Feedback collected through this tool may also be used to inform the After-Action Review Report for the COVID-19 Pandemic, which will include recommendations for quality improvement to our emergency response.

Please note: Other feedback pathways have been established that will collect and report to the NH EOC to support the ongoing emergency response.

[Provide your feedback now.](#)

The survey will remain open and accessible throughout the duration of the COVID-19 response. All responses will remain anonymous and **you can provide your feedback multiple times**. Feel free to complete the survey again whenever you have new thoughts or feedback on Northern Health's response to COVID-19.

Do not use the feedback tool for urgent concerns, requests, or incident reports. Instead, contact your manager or supervisor directly, and follow appropriate policies and procedures.

If you have any questions about this feedback tool, please contact the Northern Health Research and Evaluation Department at Research.Evaluation@northernhealth.ca.

Updated WorkSafeBC FAQs on returning to safe operation

Every employer must ensure the health and safety of their workers, including developing a plan on how to assess the risk of COVID-19 exposure in the workplace and implement measures to keep their workers safe.

WorkSafeBC has developed various general and industry-specific materials in consultation with industry and labour stakeholders in each sector.

To complement the protocols for specific industries, WorkSafeBC has also developed general resources intended for all workplaces.

These include a COVID-19 safety plan template, workplace posters, information on cleaning and hygiene practices, and guidance on the selection and use of masks.

For further information, see the full [WorkSafeBC FAQ](#).

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