

<b>Date</b>	April 16, 2020
<b>To</b>	To all Medical, Allied Health Staff and Northern Health Clinical Leadership
<b>From</b>	Dr Ronald Chapman, VP Medicine and NH EOC Task Group Lead Beth Ann Derksen, Executive Lead, Critical Care Service Network Dr. MJ Slabbert, Medical Lead, Critical Care Service Network Dana Cole, Regional Director, Pharmacy Services – Co-Chair of NH COVID-19 Therapeutics & Treatment Committee
<b>CC</b>	Penny Anguish, NI Chief Operating Officer; Angela De Smit, NE Chief Operating Officer, Ciro Panessa, NW Chief Operating Officer, Northern Health Medical Directors, NH EOC
<b>Re:</b>	<b>Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) – New NH Code Blue Algorithm and Activation Guideline in Effect for all NH Sites</b>

As part of the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak response, the new NH Code Blue Algorithm and Activation Guideline should be implemented for all Code Blue regardless of COVID-19 status. The new Code Blue includes the use of personal protected equipment (PPE) equipment for all Code Blue. This also means that all admitted patients should have a completed MOST form on their chart and a clear designations of COVID-19 status made clear on their chart.

**RATIONALE:**

- The BC Critical Care Working Group continues to work with Health Authority Critical Care Leads to develop clinical guidance for COVID-19 patients in our province.
- The BC COVID-19 Guideline now recommends Code Blue protection to align with intubation algorithms.
- The NH Critical Care Program have partnered with the UHNBC Code Blue team to develop the new Code Blue Algorithm and Activation Guideline for use in our region.
- The new NH Code Blue Algorithm and Activation Guideline will support clinical decision making throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and are based on the newest provincial Guidelines.

For more information, please see the online or contact:

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## NH Regional Code Blue Algorithm And Guiding Principles for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Updated April 13, 2020

**GOAL:** to provide guidance to physicians and staff on the management of a Code Blue situation and intubation if necessary of suspected or confirmed COVID-19

**\* Guiding Principle:**

- \* ALL admitted patients should have a completed MOST form on their chart
- \* ALL admitted patients should have a clear designation of COVID-19 status on their chart (COVID-19 'Positive', 'Suspected', 'Not Suspected', 'Negative')
- If CPR appropriate, **EARLY recognition of clinical deterioration for suspected or positive COVID-19 to allow for controlled response and possible intubation**
- **Airborne PPE** must be worn for all Code Blue responses- **intubation, bag mask ventilation and chest compressions** are aerosol generating
- ACLS with outlined modifications below
- **If Intubation needed – follow NH Intubation Algorithm**
- If cardiac arrest **during intubation** secure airway prior to starting CPR; otherwise chest compressions and rapid identification of VT/VF take precedence

### NH CODE BLUE ACTIVATION

