

In This Issue

[Reminder: Self-screening](#)

[Virtual Care Consent Reminders](#)

[Plexiglass Barriers in Horizon facilities](#)

[New Process for Requesting a Plexiglass Barrier](#)

[Mask Infographic](#)

[Reminder: SNB Scheduled Outages](#)

[GNB Updates](#)

Reminder: Self-screening

All employees and physicians are reminded that they must self-screen, clean their hands, and follow protocols related to appropriate physical distancing and wearing of procedural masks in all Horizon facilities.

Every employee and physician must review the below screening criteria to determine whether they may enter a Horizon facility, or whether additional follow-up with Employee Health and Wellness is required.

If you answer YES to any of the below screening questions, DO NOT ENTER THE BUILDING. Instead, you are to:

- Contact Employee Health immediately by calling 1-833-978-2580
- Self-isolate
- Follow the appropriate absence notification process

#1: Do you have TWO OR MORE of the below symptoms?

- Fever/signs of fever
- New cough or a cough that is getting worse
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Headache
- Diarrhea
- Loss of taste or smell
- New onset of myalgia (muscle pain)
- New onset of fatigue

#2: Have you been outside of the province in the last 14 days for any reason, including work?

#3: Have you had close contact without the use of appropriate protective equipment with a confirmed case of COVID-19 and have not been cleared by Employee Health to return to work?

#4: Have you been in contact with Employee Health related to a previous screening and have had symptoms worsen since that time?

Bulletin #48: COVID-19

May 27, 2020



Virtual Care Consent Reminders

We are aware that there may be some confusion regarding requirements for consent when consulting with patients using Virtual Care tools (Zoom for Healthcare or NB Virtual Care Platform). The acceptable use of these platforms is intended to support private office visits and outpatient clinic visits.

At Horizon we align with **Accreditation Canada's current Virtual Care standard #9.9** and simply stated:

"implied consent occurs when providing services where written consent is not needed, such as when clients arrive for an appointment or class..."

The consent process is ongoing, and it is a clinician's responsibility to review service information with their client, family, or substitute decision maker; informing them of available options and providing time for reflection and questions. The client's decision to participate in virtual care should be documented by the clinician via their normal charting practice in the client record.

Our expectation is that the provider has a conversation to screen the patient and ensure they are an appropriate candidate for Virtual Care, and once agreed to this is documented in the patient chart.

If you have received other directions regarding Virtual Care consent, it may be coming from various professional

membership organizations and they have not consulted Horizon on guidelines to comply with Accreditation Canada.

As a reminder, for all Outpatient Clinic virtual care visits, you must follow appropriate clinical documentation guidelines. During COVID-19 pandemic operations please consider the following:

Patients that receive a virtual visit/phone call from the physician:

- The physician (or physician office) notifies registration staff that the patient was contacted, including the patient's chart number or Health Card number and date of birth.
- The registration clerk will register the patient into the Hospital Information System (HIS) location, as if the patient had presented to the hospital.
- The registration clerk chooses a field that identifies the visit as a virtual/phone visit.
- The physician will dictate the report using the hospital central dictation system or document in CSDS, for applicable Mental Health clinics, as per normal documentation standards.
- The physician's note should include information that the visit was a virtual visit.
- Transcribed reports will be attached to the patient's electronic record by the registered account number.

Please note:

- If contact with the patient is not made, the visit must not be registered.

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- The physician or physician's office must establish communication with registration areas and provide the list of patients that were contacted to be registered.

For more information click [here](#).

Plexiglass Barriers in Horizon facilities

Horizon is committed to creating a safe space for our patients, clients, designated visitors, staff and physicians during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To do that, all staff and physicians must continue to follow the measures outlined by Public Health to distance themselves from others whenever possible and wear a mask when it is not. This applies to elevators, cafeterias, small corridors and patient care settings when distancing is not possible.

Plexiglass barriers are being installed in patient areas where distancing is not possible. As our health care services resume, we continue to explore how plexiglass can be used to prevent the spread of illness, in addition to our patients wearing masks and our screening process.

The demand for plexiglass is high, and we must prioritize these requests to ensure urgent requests are fulfilled first. At this time, plexiglass is being installed in patient areas only.

New Process for Requesting a Plexiglass Barrier



To request a plexiglass barrier in a patient or client area, you must obtain approval from the appropriate Executive Director or Regional Director before submitting your work order request in Megamation. Once approved, Facilities, Engineering and Property Management will review your request.

Reminder: SNB Scheduled Outages

Due to necessary infrastructure security patching, applications/services outages are scheduled for ALL Horizon Areas. Click [here](#) to view the full outage schedule.

GNB Update

Public Health reported one new case of COVID-19 on May 26.

The new case, which is under investigation, is an individual above the age of 90 in Zone 5 (Campbellton region).

There have been 122 confirmed cases. The number of active cases is two and 120 people have recovered from their illness. None of the active cases are in hospital. There have been a total of 22,920 tests conducted in New Brunswick.