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COVID-19 Bulletin

**New Screening for Hospital to Hospital Transfers
Forms by Area**

The regional HHN-1067 Screening for Hospital to Hospital Transfers Form has been replaced with four area forms which have been updated based on each area's phase and circumstances to align with the [Patient / Visitor Screening Posters](#) (scroll down to 'Screening posters' for most up to date patient / visitor screening posters for each area).

[NB's recovery plan](#) encompasses various recovery phases. At present, our province is in different recovery phases based on the pandemic's impact in each area.

In an effort to ensure screening criteria is relevant to each Horizon area it was decided four separate area forms would be most effective. Screening for hospital to hospital transfers forms are available by area on Skyline:

- [1038 COVID-19 Screening Form for Hospital to Hospital Transfers Moncton Area](#)
- [35953 COVID-19 Screening Form for Hospital to Hospital Transfers Saint John Area](#)
- [300000457 COVID-19 Screening Form for Hospital to Hospital Transfers Fredericton URV Area](#)
- [30384 COVID-19 Screening Form for Hospital to Hospital Transfers Miramichi Area](#)

As communicated on May 1, the Regional Infectious Diseases/Infection Prevention and Control Committee (ID-IPCC) recommended ongoing monitoring of **all admitted patients twice daily (every 12 hours)** to assess **changes in health status** related to COVID-19.

If a patient has been identified with **at least two of the 10** COVID-19 symptoms:

- Isolate the patient
- Immediately implement droplet and contact precautions
- Isolate all roommates on droplet and contact precautions
- Notify Infection Prevention and Control

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- Collect a nasopharyngeal swab for COVID-19 (as per directive [DIR-IPC-40041](#))
- Document a focused assessment

Transfer of patients without COVID-19 from hospital to long-term care

When the number of COVID-19 cases is low in a particular hospital (less than 5), COVID-19 patients are being isolated in their rooms, but separate units are not being established for their care. When this occurs, staff follow strict infection prevention and control practices with appropriate personal protective equipment.

It has come to the Pandemic Task Force's attention that some long-term care facilities have expressed reluctance to accept transfers of patients who were in the same unit as a COVID-19 patient but not admitted with COVID-19 themselves or displaying compatible symptoms.

The Task Force has confirmed that this is the practice across Canada when COVID-19 cases are low and wishes to reassure long-term care facilities that proper infection prevention and control protocols are in place to prevent in-hospital transmission of COVID-19. New Brunswick's infectious disease experts have also discussed the question at length and agree that this practice does not increase risk to staff or other inpatients.

No additional testing is required for an asymptomatic patient who has been in the same hospital unit as a COVID-19 case.

Please use the provincial alert levels table that was provided to you in Memo 43 to determine whether precautions should be taken upon admission.

The alerts level table can be found on the GNB website at: https://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Departments/h-s/pdf/Measures_RestrictionsNH_ARF.pdf.

GNB Updates

When available, the GNB news release can be accessed [here](#).