

**INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL COVID-19 COMMITTEE**

**Bulletin #139d – COVID-19 – ID-IPC – Continuous Use of Eye Protection in Emergency Departments – Yellow Phase – May 4 2021**

**Re-release: Continuous Use of Eye Protection during the Yellow Phase**

At this time New Brunswick Public Health is assuming all new cases of COVID-19 are variant driven. As a result, health care workers (HCWs) working in all Horizon **Emergency Departments** will wear facial protection – a medical grade face mask and eye protection (goggles / face shield) - **continuously, at all times in all areas of their workplace** during the Yellow Phase when a physical barrier (i.e., plexiglass) is not in place to prevent transmission of droplets.

This change in practice was reviewed and approved at the Regional Emergency Operations Centre on April 21, 2021.

All HCWs will wear facial protection (medical grade face mask and eye protection (goggles/face shield)) when providing care to suspect / confirmed COVID-19 patients.

The continuous use of eye protection is optional for HCWs working in clinical settings or when indicated by point of care risk assessment (PCRA).