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### **State of Emergency Declared**

The provincial government today declared a state of emergency under section 12 of the *Emergency Measures Act* to enhance measures to help contain the spread of COVID-19 (the novel coronavirus).

As a result of this declaration there are various new measures for businesses; food and beverage businesses; lounges and special facilities; public areas; educational institutions and more.

As well, every person directed by a physician to self-isolate will obey. Every person who has been outside Canada will self-isolate within their home for 14 days after their return to Canada, and, if they experience symptoms of COVID-19 during that period, will remain self-isolated until they are free of symptoms. This requirement does not apply to people exempted by the chief medical officer of health.

The declaration is [available online](#).

No new presumptive cases of COVID-19 were reported in the province today. There are still 11 cases in New Brunswick: 7 confirmed and 4 presumptive.

### **Smoking passes for patients and outside smoking breaks to cease**

In an effort to flatten the curve on the COVID-19 spread, Horizon's Executive Leadership Team has advised that all patient passes and outside smoking breaks are to cease immediately.

We recognize this will cause some hardship for our patients who smoke. Please consider talking to physicians about the appropriateness of Nicotine Replacement therapy for our patient population.

# Bulletin #5: COVID-19

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### **Hospital and CHC Access Control and Visitor Restriction**

Some facilities have implemented Restricted Access Points to limit visitation in Horizon facilities. Patients and visitors will be required to check in to the access point before gaining access to the facility.

They will be asked questions to determine if they meet any exceptions under our visitor restriction and ensure they do not exhibit any COVID-19 or flu-related symptoms.

### **Board Meeting Delayed**

Due to the focused attention on the COVID-19 situation and expected societal challenges, Horizon's April board meeting is being postponed.

Once we can ensure a safe environment for staff, board directors and members of the public, a new date and venue will be announced.

### **Well Wishes Program**

Well Wishes is an electronic card that can be accessed from the Horizon website and sent to the patient. This is a great opportunity for people to communicate with their loved ones.

### **Essential Services**

The Government of New Brunswick has announced a state of emergency in the province in response to COVID-19.

We wish to take this opportunity to clarify that all Horizon employees are essential. No Horizon employees will be sent home as a result of the announcement.

Horizon has developed a process to redeploy employees to areas of greatest need should they no longer be required in their home department. Employees in departments that are slowing or shutting down will be assigned to an area of greater need.

### **Self-isolation**

At the moment, the only instance for which self-isolation is automatically required is upon returning from an international destination. In all other instances, Public Health officials or your primary health care provider will advise you whether you need to self-isolate.

Public Health officials will contact you directly if you have been referred to them by Telecare or if they have determined you may have been in close contact with a presumptive or confirmed case.

Public Health does not advise contacts of a close contact to self-isolate.

### **Access Control Management: Employee Active Screening**

Horizon will be commencing active screening for all employees entering Horizon facilities in the coming days.

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Before entering the facility, employees will be required to answer questions related to recent international travel and the presence of any COVID-19 symptoms.

If an employee answers "yes" to any of the questions, they will be asked to provide a phone number at which a nurse from Employee Health and Wellness can contact them for further screening and possible referral to an assessment centre. The employee will be prevented from entering the workplace and will have to notify their manager of the absence and reason.

Employees will be required to enter facilities at designated doors at the beginning of their shifts and after leaving the building for any reason.

#### **Moncton: Access to TMH, Sackville, Albert**

Please be advised that during the pandemic the access points to the building for public will be restricted to the designated facility entrances. If you choose to use the Visitor/Client Access Point, you will need to show ID to the screeners to gain access to the building.

You will require your ID to card access the **Staff Access Only** sites. It is recommended you use an alternate access point.

#### **Reminder to wear Horizon-issued Photo ID / Security Access Cards**

Please ensure you have your staff ID on and visible when entering the facility. This assists with managing the COVID-19 restricted access protocol.

#### **Interim Clinical Order Set Process**

The monthly meeting of the Clinical Order Set (COS) Review and Approval Committee will be suspended for the months of March and April. During this time, priority Clinical Order Sets will be reviewed and approved on an as needed basis to meet the needs of the COVID-19 response.

Executive Director or Vice President approval is required for a Clinical Order Set to be considered a priority.

Any programs requiring assistance in the creation of Clinical Order Sets related to COVID-19 is asked to contact our office at [clinicalordersetinquiries@horizonnb.ca](mailto:clinicalordersetinquiries@horizonnb.ca).

Please forward all Clinical Order Set requests related to COVID-19 with attached email approval directly to [Christie.Ruff@HorizonNB.ca](mailto:Christie.Ruff@HorizonNB.ca).

#### **Cyber Scam Alert**

Please remain vigilant for scams related to COVID-19. An app for tracking COVID-19 was reported to contain a ransomware attack threatening to erase your phone unless you pay \$100 in bitcoin.

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Hackers may send emails with malicious attachments or links to fraudulent websites where they trick you into revealing sensitive information or donating to fraudulent charities or causes.

Use caution in handling any external email with a COVID-19-related subject line, attachment, or link, and be wary of social media pleas, texts, or calls related to COVID-19.

Horizon employees should take the following precautions:

- Avoid clicking on links and attachments in unsolicited emails.
- Use trusted sources such as legitimate government of Canada websites, GNB websites, and national or local news sites for information about Covid-19.
- Do not reveal personal or financial information in email, and do not respond to email requests for your information.
- Verify a charity's authenticity before making donations.