

Bulletin #80: COVID-19 Information

October 22, 2020



In This Issue: COVID-19 Bulletin

[Thank you from Horizon's Patient & Family Advisory Council](#)

[Questions about Horizon's response to COVID-19](#)

[Smoking on Horizon property](#)

[Christmas and holiday celebrations](#)

[Horizon's Moncton area return to employee and physician passive \(self\) screening](#)

[Update to map of Orange level communities](#)

[GNB Updates](#)

[Technology Services Update](#)

[PPE and Inpatient Patient Dashboard \(Data from Oct. 20\)](#)

COVID-19 Bulletin

Thank you from Horizon's Patient & Family Advisory Council

The members of the Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC) of Horizon Health Network would like to sincerely thank all Horizon staff for their dedication and commitment to providing sage patient care during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As patient experience advisors who are members of PFAC, we recognize the past month have been challenging and we are sure these challenges will continue into the months ahead. Many of us have experienced and observed on a firsthand basis how Horizon staff at all levels have met these challenges. We recognize the efforts and actions taken by staff to plan, collaborate, and implement policies to keep everyone safe.

We want you to know that we sincerely appreciate the hard work and continued dedication to providing safe and quality care during unprecedented circumstances.

Stay safe and keep up the great work.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wayne McDonald, Co-Chair, Patient & Family Advisory Council

Margaret Melanson, V.P. Quality & Patient Safety Care, Co-Chair, Patient & Family Advisory Council

Questions about Horizon's response to COVID-19

Horizon works closely with numerous partners to ensure the directives we provide regarding screening requirements, leave benefits, mask usage and hand washing, and the numerous

Bulletin #80: COVID-19 Information

October 22, 2020

other COVID-19-related issues are in alignment with government direction.

There have been instances where employees and physicians have gone directly to the Premier's office and Chief Medical Officer of Health with questions. These questions are always referred to Horizon for response to the employee or physician, and the delay can impact timely resolution to the issue.

Employees and physicians with questions or concerns related to the directives are asked to consult with their manager, the department issuing the directive, Employee Health and Wellness, Human Resources, or their union (where applicable).

Smoking on Horizon property

All Horizon properties are non-smoking properties in accordance with our *Smoke-Free Environment Policy* and in accordance with New Brunswick's *Smoke-Free Places Act*. This includes all Horizon facilities and surrounding grounds.

Employees, physicians, patients, and visitors are prohibited from smoking, vaping, or heating any tobacco products, medical cannabis, or herbal products in Horizon facilities and on Horizon property.

Failure to abide by the *Smoke-Free Environment Policy* could result in discipline up to and including termination of employment.



For employees and physicians who choose to leave Horizon properties during their breaks or meal periods to smoke, please be advised that the Public Health requirements related to COVID-19 remain in effect, even while smoking or vaping.

Employees and physicians must maintain physical distancing of two metres when removing masks to smoke and cannot sit together in locations that do not enable the two metre separation.

Christmas and holiday celebrations

With Thanksgiving behind us, and Halloween fast approaching, we know many departments and units are starting to consider their annual workplace Christmas and Holiday potlucks, parties, and gatherings.

Unfortunately, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Public Health and WorkSafeNB guidelines, Horizon is unable to permit Christmas and Holiday celebrations in the workplace this year.

The requirements to wear masks in all workplaces and to maintain two metres of distance when removing your masks for the purposes of eating, make these celebrations unfeasible and introduce an unacceptable element of risk.

We know many departments look forward to gathering together to celebrate the holidays and that this directive will be a disappointment to many. However, watching the situations in the Moncton (Zone 1) and Campbellton (Zone 5) areas demonstrates how rapidly outbreaks can occur and

Bulletin #80: COVID-19 Information

October 22, 2020

Horizon must do what it can to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19.

Horizon's Moncton area return to employee and physician passive (self) screening

As was announced by GNB, the Moncton area is returning to the Yellow phase. With this announcement, Horizon will be returning to self screening for all employees and physicians working in the Moncton area (Zone 1) of Horizon as of Oct. 23, 2020 at 12:01 a.m.

Accordingly, employee entrances at all sites will be reopened. At The Moncton Hospital, the following entrances will be open:

- 600 block staff door off MacBeath Street
- Both staff doors off Arden Street parking lot
- Staff entrances next to Clinics A and B
- ACC main door staff access
- Residence/daycare door
- PAB link

Before entering any Horizon facility, employees and physicians will be required to review the posted screening questions related to possible exposure and the presence of any COVID-19 symptoms.

If an employee or physician answers "yes" to any of the questions, they are not to enter the facility. They must contact Employee Health and Wellness (1-833-978-2580) for further screening and possible referral to a COVID-19 assessment centre. The employee or physician prevented from entering the



workplace and will have to notify their manager or department head of the absence and reason.

Employees and physicians are encouraged to conduct their self screening prior to arriving at the facility.

As a reminder, all Horizon employees and physicians are required to wear a mask before entering any Horizon facility, to wash their hands upon entry to or exit from any facility and to ensure proper physician distancing is maintained at all time.

Horizon takes very seriously the health and welfare of its employees and physicians and we appreciate your co-operation as we institute measures designed to help keep you safe.

The updated questions and signage can be accessed [here](#). All updated posters are available on the [Coronavirus Skyline page](#).

Update to map of Orange level communities

In light of the government's decision to move the Moncton area (Zone 1) to the Yellow level, Horizon has updated the map that shows and lists the communities from the Campbellton area (Zone 5) that remain in the Orange level. You can view the map and list [here](#).

GNB Update

Zone 1 (Moncton region) will return to the Yellow level as of midnight tonight. Zone 5 (Campbellton region) will remain in the Orange level of recovery.

Bulletin #80: COVID-19 Information

October 22, 2020



Public Health reported three new cases of COVID-19 today, all in Zone 5.

On October 21, Public Health reported six new cases of COVID-19 in Zone 5. New Brunswick recorded its fourth death related to COVID-19.

Technology Services Update

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