

Bulletin #92: COVID-19 Information

December 1, 2020



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COVID-19 Bulletin

[Update on Horizon's ongoing COVID-19 response \(video\)](#)

This afternoon, Horizon's President and CEO, Karen McGrath held a media briefing to provide an update on Horizon's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ahead of this briefing, she recorded her update for staff and physicians. Watch the video here!

[Your continued diligence wearing a mask is needed!](#)

As was shared on Dec. 1, by [Dr. Jennifer Russell](#), mask-wearing and physical distancing are two of the most important tools we have in the fight against COVID-19. We have seen how quickly an outbreak of COVID-19 can occur and how many people are affected by these outbreaks.

With the implementation of the modified screening process, we are pleased to report that mask compliance upon entry to Horizon has improved. But we need your help and your continued diligence as your move throughout your workplace.

Please make sure you are wearing your masks at all times: when you're doing your tasks for the day, when you're relaxing on your break, and when you're working with colleagues.

The only exception to mask wearing is when you are seated, you are at least two metres from any other person, and you are eating.

Wearing masks in Horizon facilities and on Horizon property is mandatory.

Hand washing as you enter Horizon facilities is mandatory.

Completion of the [self-screening questionnaire](#) before entering a Horizon facility is mandatory.

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Mask guidelines in the cafeteria

It has been reported that some employees are not following the COVID-19 guidelines when eating in Horizon's cafeterias. Please remember that mask-wearing and physical distancing is mandatory.

You may only remove your mask if you are seated, if you are at least two metres away from any other person, and you are eating.

Tables have been placed in accordance with direction from IPC to ensure appropriate physical distancing. Tables are not to be moved and tape on tables cannot be removed. Employees may only sit in open seats.

Horizon recognizes the importance of keeping the cafeterias open for staff and physicians and we have been able to do so for the past nine months. Your cooperation is needed so that the cafeterias can remain open.

Face masks for health care workers use during COVID-19

Last week, the Regional Infectious Diseases Infection Prevention and Control (ID-IPC) COVID-19 Committee updated the guidance related to Horizon's [face mask for health care workers use during COVID-19](#). This update reflects research on best practices and Health Canada recommendations related to personal protective equipment (PPE).

The update ensures all health care workers (HCW) in Horizon facilities have access to the mask required for their working conditions. Currently, some HCWs are using a Level 3 mask when an approved Level 1 mask meets standards.

Prior to this change, a variety masks were being used across the organization, some of which no longer meet current standards.

We have not downgraded PPE for employees and physicians.

Now all HCWs are supplied with American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) masks. Health Canada and the World Health Organization advise that ASTM level face masks (1 to 3) are fluid resistant medical grade face masks and are safe for use when providing care to suspect / confirmed COVID-19 patients.

All masks worn across the organization now meet the specifications required by the ASTM standards and are accessible to HCWs to be used for the proper indication following the HCW's Point of Care Risk Assessment.

The protective level of the mask required for each situation will continue to be available. When Level 2 or 3 medical face masks are required for higher risk procedures such as Operating Room Theatres, the Emergency Department, Intensive Care Units and some outpatient clinics (Ambulatory care), they will be available.

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Any face masks in stock in Horizon facilities that do not meet the ASTM standards are now considered non-medical face coverings.

Horizon's ID-IPC COVID-19 Committee is working diligently to ensure Horizon's practices continue to align with evolving national standards and other jurisdictions across the country.

Your safety and the safety of our patients and communities has been and remains Horizon's number one focus.

Thank you for your continued diligence, as we work through the ongoing outbreak. We know proper mask use and hand hygiene are instrumental in the fight against COVID-19.

If you have any questions about accessing PPE, please contact your manager.

[GNB Update](#)

Public Health reported seven new cases of COVID-19 today, four cases in Zone 2 (Saint John region) and three in Zone 3 (Fredericton region).

Public Health identified potential public exposure to the virus at the following locations in Zone 2:

- Cask and Kettle on **Nov. 17** between 8 p.m. and 8:45 p.m. (112 Prince William St., Saint John);

- Churchill's Pub on **Nov. 20** between 8:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. (8 Grannan St., Saint John).
- Picaroons on **Nov. 21** between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. (30 Canterbury St., Saint John).
- Thandi's Restaurant on **Nov. 21** between 7:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. (33 Canterbury St., Saint John).

If you were at any of these locations, and you have no symptoms of COVID-19, self monitor and follow all Public Health guidelines.

[SNB Microsoft Edge deployment](#)

Beginning the evening of Tuesday, Dec. 1, Microsoft Edge browser will be deployed as an additional browser over the coming days. Internet Explorer will not be removed. This initiative will help support many of the newer applications being deployed such as Microsoft Teams. Instructions for when you open the new Edge browser for the first time:

- 1) Sync your account to Microsoft
 - You will be presented with a popup screen prompting to sync your account to Microsoft.
 - Click on "Sync"
This is an optional setting however syncing

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your account will allow you to sync information such as favorites, history, open tabs, and collections across multiple devices you log into.

- 2) Import your "Favourites," if needed.
 - Internet Explorer is still your default browser.
 - Your "Favourites" have been imported by default on first use of Edge regardless of sync settings. If for some reason favorites have not been imported, or you wish to import settings from Chrome, you can import them manually by using the following steps:
 - A. Open Microsoft Edge and select "Setting and More" at the top corner of the window.
 - B. Select "Favourites>Import."
 - C. Under "Import From," select the browser from which you want to import your favourites.
 - D. Choose what you want to import from the browser.
 - E. When the import is complete, you'll see a notification. Select "Done."

If you encounter any difficulties, please contact the service desk for assistance: service@SNB.ca or 1-844-354-4357.

The Moncton Hospital Physiotherapy Relocation

Physiotherapy services that were temporarily being offered on 5400 have been relocated to its former space on the seventh floor.

Effective Monday, Nov. 30, anyone seeking this department should be directed to the 600 block public elevators.