

# Bulletin #103: COVID-19 Information

## January 7, 2021



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### COVID-19 Bulletin

#### [CEO Memo: Our collective commitment to stop the spread of COVID-19](#)

The second wave of COVID-19 has arrived in this province and once again, New Brunswickers are being asked to help stop the spread.

We know what to do and we know it works. Diligent adherence to Public Health and Infection Prevention and Control guidelines is required of each Horizon employee, physician and our patients and clients. Our previous successes were built on washing our hands, wearing a mask, keeping our distance and maintaining a small number of close contacts. Our future successes rely on these same foundations.

I am asking you, as employees and physicians in the health care field, to hold firm to these fundamental and crucial public health measures. I know you are tired after 10 months of stress and sacrifice, but I am asking you to live our Horizon values as we protect the services and care we provide to our patients and clients.

Please **do not come to work if you have two or more symptoms of COVID-19, even if they are mild symptoms.**

Call Employee Health and Wellness (1-833-978-2580) to arrange for testing. The **screening process** required of staff and physicians is imperative to preventing spread.

**Continue to avoid gatherings**, both at work and at home. At work, in break rooms and staff common areas, adhere to the number of people allowed in a space at one time and ensure you maintain physical distance.

Your continued dedication to caring for your patients and clients, your colleagues and all New Brunswickers is admirable – thank you.

Sincerely,

Karen

#### [Patient and designated visitor personal items – All phases](#)

With the province reverting to the Orange phase of recovery, we would like to remind employees and physicians about what items patients and designated visitors can bring into Horizon facilities.

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These are items that can be easily wiped and cleaned with a disinfectant and meet the screening criteria of being in a household where none of the occupants are on self-isolation.

Posters related to this for main entrances during the Orange or Red phase can be found [here](#), and all updated posters are available on the [Coronavirus Skyline page](#).

Please familiarize yourself with what's acceptable for patients and designated visitors to bring into a Horizon facility during the Orange level of recovery. The list created by the Infectious Disease and Infection Prevention and Control COVID-19 Committee can be accessed [here](#).

#### **[PROMT Isolation Guidance for staff responding to an outbreak](#)**

The Task force has recently approved a change to the isolation requirements for the core PROMT team members, which includes professional EMP and RHA staff, as well as SD Social Workers.

Like staff who regularly care for COVID-19 positive patients in hospitals, core PROMT team members will no longer be required to work isolate or self-isolate outside of work. As such, the PROMT team members will have core training that will be refreshed and reinforced at the point of deployment to an outbreak. IPC will be on site providing training and auditing



practices. Breaches in best practices are reported to Public Health.

The Medical Officer of Health may still require more stringent measures based on the specifics of a given situation (i.e.: PPE breach).

Of note, two other documents have been developed to inform isolation requirements within an outbreak setting for facility staff and non-facility staff; they are available through Social Development.

Click [here](#) to view guidelines on isolation for PROMT members responding to an outbreak within a vulnerable population.

#### **[GNB Updates](#)**

When available, the Government of New Brunswick's news release can be accessed [here](#).