

Bulletin #121: COVID-19 Information

February 22, 2021



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COVID-19 Bulletin

[You're invited to an IPC panel discussion and Q&A](#)

When: [Tuesday, Feb. 23 at 10 a.m.](#)

OR

[Thursday, Feb. 25 at 10 a.m.](#)

Where: Zoom (click above times for Zoom meeting links)

Who: Dr. Gordon Dow, Division Head of Infectious Disease at Horizon's The Moncton Hospital and member of the New Brunswick Pandemic Task Force; Merita MacMillan, Regional Lead, Infection Prevention and Control; and Marilyn Babineau, Manager, Workforce Wellness.

Note: You do not need to RSVP. Each Zoom meeting has the capacity to welcome 500 participants.

[Nurses are invited to participate in a research study on mental health and COVID-19](#)

Nurses are invited to participate in a research study led by Dr. Ivy Lynn Bourgeault at the University of Ottawa, which is exploring the mental health experiences of professional workers, and how these experiences are affected by their personal, work and family life.

The research team is interested in leaves of absence and return to work, as well as the role that gender has on these experiences.

There are also some questions about the impact of COVID-19.

If you are interested in getting more information or participating, please follow this link to the online survey https://uottawatelfer.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_07oDBiLlcl_K1UJT

The survey will take about 15-20 minutes to complete.

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If you would prefer to participate in an interview, please contact the study administrative coordinator, at HPW@uottawa.ca.

The interview will take 40-60 minutes and you will receive a \$20 honorarium. Thank you for considering this important research, intended to enhance mental health supports for nurses.

Vaccine allocation to LTC Facilities

The provincial government is expected to receive enough vaccine for all New Brunswickers wishing to be vaccinated by the fall of 2021. Planning and delivery of vaccine is well underway with the small quantity that has arrived to date. Immunizations have been provided to frontline health care workers, and long-term care staff and residents. Over the past couple of weeks, the federal supply of vaccine has been interrupted and NB has received an unexpected decrease in the number of doses allotted to the province. Coupled with the arrival of Variants of Concern (VOC) in Canada and a rise in COVID-19 cases in our province, we are shifting our focus on completing vaccination in long term care at this time.

When vaccine supply is limited, the province's goal is to minimize death and serious illness from COVID-19, protect the most vulnerable and to maintain the continuity of health care services.

In New Brunswick, we have recently experienced an increasing number of outbreaks in our long-term care facilities. The



resources required to manage outbreaks in long-term care facilities has been significant. While the majority of COVID-19 positive cases have been managed clinically within the affected facilities, the outbreaks have resulted in serious illness and death for some of our beloved citizens.

As a result, beginning the week of February 15th, all vaccine arriving into the province will be used to complete vaccination for staff and residents in all our long-term care facilities. Once this is completed, it is expected that vaccination will continue for health care workers, those living in First Nations communities and people aged 85 years and older in mid-March. It is anticipated that the vaccine supply will progressively increase in late March and into the second quarter of 2021.

As we move forward vaccinating staff and residents in long-term care facilities, we urgently call upon the assistance of all qualified immunizers in the province to lend their support in this endeavour.

Please speak to your manager if you're interested in vaccinating staff and residents in long-term care facilities, or any of the upcoming Horizon vaccination clinics.

GNB updates

When available, the GNB news release can be accessed [here](#).