

# Bulletin #128: COVID-19 Information

## March 11, 2021



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### **COVID-19 Bulletin**

#### **Use of rapid COVID-19 tests on symptomatic admitted patients during yellow phase**

Multiple zones in New Brunswick are now in a modified yellow recovery phase. The previous process in yellow was to stop doing rapid tests for COVID-19 on admitted patients. However, with the threat of the COVID-19 variants combined with an increase in supply for some rapid tests, it was decided to continue performing rapid COVID-19 tests on all symptomatic admissions even during the yellow phase.

Immunosuppressed admissions, admissions to pediatrics and ICU, with symptoms, will be tested for a respiratory panel using the BioFire platform. All other admissions will be tested for COVID/Influenza/RSV using the GeneXpert tests. This process will continue until further changes from Public health.

#### **GNB Revised COVID-19 Ethics Framework**

The Pandemic Task Force approved a revised COVID-19 Ethics Framework, available [here](#).

The following revisions are noted:

1. In the "Summary of the Ethics Framework", the words "mental or physical" have been removed before "disability" to avoid excluding other hypothetical types of disability (Page 3).
2. In the "Guidelines", two steps have been removed. There are no longer any inclusion or exclusion criteria.
3. Editorial revisions have been made to accommodate these changes.

#### **GNB Revised Medical Assistance in Dying**

The Pandemic Task Force recognizes individuals obtaining medical assistance in dying (MAID) require and deserve the

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support and comfort of those close to them at the end of their life. This directive applies in all phases of recovery.

Click [here](#) to read the directive for different scenarios.



### [GNB updates](#)

The provincial government announced today that pharmacies will play a key role in the next phase of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Beginning today, New Brunswickers who are 85 and older may contact a pharmacist to set up an appointment to receive their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Appointments will be scheduled at nearly every pharmacy in the province, with the first vaccinations starting Wednesday, March 17.

Public Health reported two new cases of COVID-19 today in Zone 1 (Moncton region).

The full GNB news release can be accessed [here](#).