

Bulletin #196: COVID-19 Information

March 24, 2022



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COVID-19 Bulletin



Reminder: COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

The COVID-19 vaccination will continue to be a condition of employment for all physicians, volunteers, on-site vendors, suppliers, and contractors for Horizon as per the [memo](#) distributed on March 18, 2022. There has been no change to the vaccine policy for Horizon. The provincial government will regularly reassess the vaccination policy based on Public Health Advice.



Reminder: Employee Family Assistance (EFAP) Program

We are so excited about the enhancements to our EFAP program at Horizon!

Our new digital Homeweb experience offers: daily check-ins, custom triage, expert assessments personalized service offerings, individualized dashboard.

Education sessions for employees and managers: Pathfinder Overview

Manager info session	March 28, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.	Click here
Employee info session	March 29, 12 to 12:30 p.m.	Click here
Employee info session	March 30, 12 to 12:30 p.m.	Click here
Employee info session	March 31, 12 to 12:30 p.m.	Click here

Remember to [register for an account with Homewood Health](#) to gain access to all the services available to you and your family.

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EFAP provides access to advice, counselling and coaching 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days of the year. When registering, employees will be asked to provide their first and last name, date of birth, email address, password, and the invitation code.

WEBSITE: www.homewood.ca

INVITATION CODE: GNB934

Please note: If you have previously registered for Homewood health account, please **log out** and **log in** again.



Designated Support Person (DSP) updates

The following DSP guidance documents have been revised:

- [DSP Vaccination Guidelines](#): Incorporated new time frame for PCR test results – 72 hours has changed to 48 hours
- [Management of DSPs with Travel Risk Factors Including Compassionate Visitation – Red Phase](#): Updated to reflect the removal of testing and isolation requirements for domestic travellers. Domestic travellers will follow the current DSP vaccination guidelines. International travellers will continue to follow guidelines as per



- [DSP Operational Plan](#): Updated to reflect the above guidelines and criteria and processes for compassionate end of life visits for DSPs who are asymptomatic and a close contact of COVID-19 or a positive case of COVID-19 as per the IPC Guidance – Compassionate Exemption for Asymptomatic close contact of COVID-19 or COVID-19 Positive DSP for End of Life Visitation.

Please visit the [DSP Resources Skyline](#) page for further information.

Alternative products for disinfectant wipes

In the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, there were severe strains on the disinfectant, cleaning supplies market. At the time, great efforts were made to source and stockpile critical disinfectant supplies. Thus, brands of products not normally utilized in Horizon facilities were purchased in large quantities as they became available. Some were used, and others were stockpiled.

We are now in a position where we need to deplete our stockpiled inventory of disinfectant wipes. In the coming days, departments will begin to see new containers of wipes being delivered from stores when ordered. These products are of the same effectiveness and quality of our everyday products and

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have been endorsed by Horizon's Infectious Disease Infection Prevention and Control COVID-19 Committee.

Meditech ordering procedures for disinfectant wipes will remain unchanged and departments will be charged an equal price to the products they are using now.

Thank you for your cooperation in this initiative.

NOTE: These wipes cannot be used for C. Difficile or norovirus cleaning and disinfecting protocols.

Horizon reminds public masks are mandatory in hospitals and health care facilities

The following PSA was shared with media earlier today.

Horizon wishes to remind the public that masks remain mandatory in all Horizon hospitals and health care facilities.

All patients, clients and support persons will continue to be screened for COVID-19 symptoms and asked a series of questions upon entry to our facilities. Everyone entering a facility must monitor themselves for COVID-19 symptoms, clean their hands, **wear a mask**, and maintain physical distancing, where required.

These precautions continue to be necessary to respond for the health and safety of patients, clients, staff, and physicians.



COVID-19 cases in the community, hospital and within the health care team remain high.

Horizon facilities remain in the Red alert level even though the province's public health measures and mandatory order were lifted on March 14, 2022.

Thank you for your continued understanding and patience.

Learn more here: <https://bit.ly/3NbiWUD>.

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