

Bulletin #200: COVID-19 Information

April 28, 2022



In This Issue: COVID-19 Bulletin

[Weekly Horizon COVID-19 report](#)

[DSPs are required to have up to date COVID-19 vaccinations beginning May 24](#)

[DSPs for Horizon long-term care facilities](#)

[Clarification regarding the number of DSPs for patients hospitalized less than 14 days](#)

[IPC guidance for uniforms and hospital owned scrubs](#)

[Horizon dashboard data from April 27](#)

COVID-19 Bulletin



[DSPs are required to have up to date COVID-19 vaccinations beginning May 24](#)

As of May 24, 2022, up to date COVID-19 vaccinations will be required for DSPs. This will be in alignment for the Government of New Brunswick vaccination policy for those working in in vulnerable sectors i.e., Regional Health Authorities, Extra-Mural/Ambulance NB and correctional facilities.

Up to date vaccination includes the following criteria:

- Up to date vaccination* is defined as the following:
 - The person has received two doses** of a Health Canada approved COVID-19 vaccine **AND**:
 - Has received a booster dose **OR**
 - It has been less than six months from their

last dose **OR**

- They have had a confirmed COVID-19 positive test result within the last three months

* The up to date vaccination definition is defined by the Government of New Brunswick's policy for workers in vulnerable sectors.

** One (1) dose of the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccine

This requirement will be communicated on Horizon's website.

The process for health care workers to communicate the vaccination requirement and determine if the DSP is up to date with their COVID 19 vaccination is outlined in the DSP Operational Plan. Processes for DSPs who are not to date with the vaccination requirement will remain in place.

The IPC [DSP Vaccination Guidelines](#) and [DSP Operational Plan](#) have been updated to reflect this change and contain additional information.

For internal purposes only

Bulletin #200: COVID-19 Information

April 28, 2022



DSPs for Horizon long-term care facilities

The current [DSP Support Table](#) in the Red Phase [has](#) been revised to allow residents of Horizon [long-term care](#) (LTC) facilities to have **two** DSPs visit at one time.

This change aligns more closely with practices in other [LTC](#) facilities in the province and with Social Development's current practice.



Clarification regarding the number of DSPs for patients hospitalized less than 14 days

To mitigate the impact of staff shortages on patient experiences, patients who are admitted for less than 14 days who require physical and/or emotional support will be permitted to have up to **two** DSPs, one at a time.

DSPs must be up to date with their COVID 19 vaccinations. All other existing patient eligibility criteria for a DSPs remains in place.

Additional DSP information is available on [Skyline](#) or by emailing DSP-PSD@HorizonNB.ca.



IPC guidance for uniforms and hospital owned scrubs

The current Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) COVID-19 Guidance document advises health care workers (HCWs) regarding the type of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) required when providing care to patients with suspect or confirmed COVID-19.

At this time guidelines do not indicate that hospital provided scrubs are required but have been provided as an option for HCWs working in high risk areas (COVID-19 Units, ERs, ICUs) for prolonged periods of time.

Prior to leaving the workplace HCWs who provide care to suspect/confirmed COVID-19 patients will change their uniform and place it in a plastic bag for transport.

HCWs who wear hospital owned scrubs are required to

For internal purposes only

Bulletin #200: COVID-19 Information

April 28, 2022

change and place scrubs in the appropriate linen hamper to be re-laundered. Hospital provided scrubs are not to be worn outside of the workplace.

IPC guidelines recommend the following process be followed when doing laundry:

- Follow directions on the labels of laundry or clothing items and detergent
- Use normal laundry detergent according to washing machine instructions and
- Dry clothing thoroughly using the warmest temperatures recommended on the label
- Hand hygiene should be performed after handling all soiled clothing

Follow the [COVID-19 - Staff Safety Tips](#) staying safe!

Please visit the [IPC Resources COVID-19 Skyline Page](#) for COVID-19 information.

