

Bulletin #201: COVID-19 Information

May 5, 2022



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New: [IPC guidance for Inpatient Leave of Absence during Red Phase](#)

The ID-IPC COVID-19 Committee has developed a process to facilitate [Leave of Absence \(LOA\) during the Red Phase](#) as part of the care plan determined by the health care team.

The following are key highlights contained within the document:

- Inpatient movement will remain restricted during the Red Phase. This includes smoking passes and patient movement off the inpatient unit. Exceptions include the use of dedicated outdoor spaces and patient passes/leave of absences.

- Revisions were made to reflect Public Health measures for vulnerable patients or patients at risk for severe illness such as physical distancing, use of face masks and hand hygiene will be followed by the patient and all members of the household.
- A sentinel testing strategy was added for patients returning from overnight or day passes/leave of absences.
- Patient passes/leave of absences may be authorized by an Administrative Director or their designate.



Revised: [IPC guidance for the Sexual Assault Response Team during COVID-19 pandemic - all phases](#)

The ID-IPC COVID-19 Committee has revised the [Sexual Assault Response Team Volunteer Guidelines](#) to reflect the

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amended vaccination policy and to permit these volunteers to be on site to provide support to individuals who present to the Emergency Department for sexual assault related incidents during all phases of the pandemic.



Revised: Staff instructions for discharging COVID-19 patients from acute care facilities - all phases

The [discharge instructions for COVID-19 positive patients](#) was revised to clarify Public Health reporting requirements. Prior to the discharge of a COVID-19 positive patient to a vulnerable setting (Long Term Care, Homeless Shelters, Correctional and Adult Residential Facilities), the care team will provide relevant information on the care of the patient to the community-based care provider.

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



Current DSP vaccination guidelines remain in place

Following consultation with the Infectious Disease and Infection and Prevention Control COVID-19 Committee, and approval from the Horizon Emergency Operations Committee, the current requirement for designated support persons (DSPs) to be fully vaccinated will remain in place.

Persons are *fully vaccinated* if they have received the full series of a COVID-19 vaccine authorized by Health Canada. New Brunswick accepts any COVID-19 vaccine approved by the Government of Canada administered as per immunization schedule.

Like all New Brunswickers, DSPs are encouraged to keep their COVID-19 vaccines up to date.

DSPs who are not fully vaccinated will complete testing requirements as outlined in the [IPC DSP Vaccination Guidelines](#).

Updated DSP documents, which reflect these changes are found on the [DSP Skyline Page](#).

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