

CD Unit COVID-19 Weekly Teleconference Notes

Sept 8th, 2020

10:00 EST / 09:00 CST

Dial-in: 1-877-413-4781 Access Code: 377 0869

COVID-19 in Ontario

- COVID-19 continues to circulate in Ontario
- All of the province is in [Stage 3](#) of reopening
- A free [app](#) is available to inform users if they may have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus – you can [learn more here](#)

Public health measures like watching your distance, washing your hands, and wearing a face covering remain very important

- Avoid crowded places, close contact, and closed spaces
- Opening your ‘[social circle](#)’ to up to 10 people may be considered – these are people you can have close contact with – keep 2 m from those not in your social circle
- Wear a [face covering](#) (cloth mask, non-medical mask) when running essential errands where you’ll be indoors – some areas of Ontario require you to wear a face covering – find more information about how masks help [here](#) and [here](#)
- Stay home and self-isolate if you are sick, feel unwell, or [have symptoms](#) of COVID-19

Guidance Documents

The [Ministry website](#) was last updated 04 September 2020

- COVID-19 Guidance: [Primary Care Providers in a Community Setting](#) V6 (04 Sep 2020)
 - Clarification that for patients who screen negative and are coming to the office/clinic for vaccine administration, gloves are not required to be worn, but considered as per the Canadian Immunization Guide (Bullet 24)
 - Removal of wording on “essential visits”
 - Recommendation to actively screen all patients (and those accompanying them) upon entry to office/clinic, in addition to phone screening
 - Masking for patients and accompanying persons for entirety of clinic visit
 - In addition to symptomatic patients, testing should also be offered to, or arranged for, asymptomatic patients with a known or suspected exposure
 - Requirement to self-isolate while working for asymptomatic primary care providers revised to reflect return from travel outside of Canada or to an area inside Canada with an elevated rate of COVID-19 (Bullet 31)
- [Resuming Visits in Long-Term Care Homes](#) (02 Sep 2020; effective 09 Sep 2020)
 - Intended to supplement Directive #3 and considers safety, emotional well-being, equitable access, flexibility, and equality
 - Describes roles and responsibilities, types (categories) of visitors, and their access to homes and outbreak areas as well as requirements for screening, PPE, management of safe visits, and non-adherence by visitors

Public Health Ontario (PHO) has basic online modules for [COVID-19 IPAC Fundamentals](#), which support clinic staff, non-clinical staff, families, caregivers, and inspectors (updated 02 Sep 2020)

Public Health Ontario Lab ([PHOL](#)) has updated information, including [FAQs](#), on [PCR collection kits](#) and lab testing for COVID-19

COVID-19 FNIHB-OR Epi Report

- As of September 4th, 2020, we have 64 confirmed cases. Of those cases, 62 or 97% have resolved. We currently have no active cases.
- Since the beginning of the pandemic, there have been 2 deaths.
- In total, 5,147 tests have been reported to FNIHB-OR. 1,033 tests (20%) are pending and 4,050 tests (79%) are negative.
- A grand total of 11,153 tests (including 4,094 tests from SLFNHA and 1,912 tests from WAHA).
- There are 29 health units reporting 5 or fewer cases. The majority of cases come from 4 health units: Toronto = 48 cases, Peel = 42 cases, Ottawa = 27 cases, York = 19 cases. Case count average for Ontario was 159 cases over last 7 days and represents a 35% increase in average since last week. 52% new cases reported today was in those less than 40 years of age. Average of 0 deaths per day over past 7 days, which is lower than last week.

FNIHB CD Unit Activities

2020-2021 UIIP (Influenza Vaccination) Season: Information Coming Soon!

- The CD Unit receives guidance related to the Universal Influenza Immunization Program from the Ministry of Health (MOH). Once the MOH releases information related to the 2020-2021 season, the CD Unit will distribute this information broadly and offer the annual UIIP education sessions for nurses

Contact

General inquiry email set up for community leadership

- COVID19 General Inquiry Email: sac.covid-19fnihbontario.isc@canada.ca

Next teleconference:

Tuesday September 15th at 10:00 EST / 09:00 CST

Dial-in 1-877-413-4781 Conference ID: 377 0869