

## **CD Unit COVID-19 Weekly Teleconference Notes**

May 5, 2020

10:00 EST / 09:00 CST

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

### **COVID-19 in Ontario**

- Renewal of the provincial state of emergency to at least 12 May 2020; public schools closed until at least 31 May 2020
- Importance of continuation of measures to prevent spread through physical (previously called social) distancing
  - Stay home if you are not an essential worker
  - Stay home except for essential errands like to a medical appointment or for groceries/medication (and minimise these trips)
  - Stay 2 metres from other people if you have to go out
- Importance of self-isolation if unwell, and self-quarantine (also often called self-isolation) if there was a potential exposure
  - Closure of a community, or restriction of entry is not sufficient to prevent spread as people (like essential workers) may still be going in and out – also need physical distancing and other measures
- Continued importance of hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, and appropriate cleaning and disinfection of surfaces

### **Guidance Documents for Nurses**

- Check Ministry website for most up-to-date documents  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/2019\\_guidance.aspx](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/2019_guidance.aspx)
- COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms V2.0 (2 May 2020)
  - Addition of conjunctivitis and wording around consideration for runny nose, sneezing or nasal congestion in absence of underlying reason for those symptoms such as seasonal allergies, post nasal drip, etc.  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019\\_reference\\_doc\\_symptoms.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_reference_doc_symptoms.pdf)
- COVID-19 Patient Screening Guidance Document V2.0 (2 May 2020)
  - Provides sample questions that can be asked to screen people for COVID-19 and guidance on how to determine a positive or negative screen – updated to include additional symptoms, and similar wording around consideration for running nose, sneezing or nasal congestion (as above in the Reference Document for Symptoms), and clarification of ‘falls’  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019\\_patient\\_screening\\_guidance.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_patient_screening_guidance.pdf)
- COVID-19 Quick Reference Public Health Guidance on Testing and Clearance V6.0 (2 May 2020)
  - Expansion of “Criteria for when to discharge someone from isolation and consider ‘resolved’”
  - Addition of “Approaches to Clearing Cases” including test-based and non-test-based
  - Updated “Recommendations for Health Care Workers Return to Work”  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019\\_testing\\_clearing\\_cases\\_guidance.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_testing_clearing_cases_guidance.pdf)
- COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance Update V3.0 (2 May 2020)
  - Additional guidance for testing newborns
  - Additional guidance for transfer from hospital to LTC
  - Addition of conjunctivitis to atypical symptom list
  - Addition of consideration for other underlying reasons for those presenting with ONLY runny nose, sneezing, or congestion (such as seasonal allergies, postnasal drip, etc.)
  - Additional appendices for considerations for cancer patients and hemodialysis patients  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019\\_covid\\_testing\\_guidance.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_covid_testing_guidance.pdf)

- Both the province and the ministry's websites are regularly updated, and include information on the status of COVID-19 in Ontario and guidance documents
  - Province  
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/how-ontario-is-responding-covid-19>
  - Ministry  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/2019\\_guidance.aspx](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/2019_guidance.aspx)
  - Public Health Ontario also provides up-to-date information and information summaries  
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/novel-coronavirus>
  - For lab information that is up-to-date please visit the PHOL website  
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/laboratory-services/test-information-index/wuhan-novel-coronavirus>
- The Onehealth website is also updated regularly: [onehealth.ca](https://onehealth.ca) – click on the Ontario website

## COVID-19 Epi report

- As of May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020, we have 38 confirmed cases. Of these cases 21 or 55% have resolved.
- Since the beginning of the pandemic, there has been 1 death in an elder.
- In total, 784 tests have been reported to FNIHB-OR. 169 tests (22%) are pending and 577 tests (74%) are negative.

## FNIHB Activities

### Immunization Services During COVID-19 Response

- In follow up to last week's Memo, Immunization Services during COVID-19 Response, health facilities are encouraged to evaluate the appropriateness to consider reinstating priority vaccinations within their facilities. Such priorities include: routine infant immunizations (2 to 15 month vaccinations as per the PFISFO, high-risk and special populations, tetanus booster for those injured or wounded and vaccinations for health care workers)
- For more information, please refer to the memo posted on Onehealth.ca or previous email mail out

### CD Unit: COVID-19 Related Tools & Resources

- With the recent changes to the Ministry of Health guidelines and recommendations, the CD Unit will update the appropriate resources and tools for use
- Updates will be made available by email and be posted on Onehealth.ca

## Contact

- General inquiry email/phone set up for community leadership
  - COVID19 General Inquiry Email: [sac.covid-19fnihbontario.isc@canada.ca](mailto:sac.covid-19fnihbontario.isc@canada.ca)

**Next teleconference:** Tuesday May 12th at 10:00 EST / 09:00 CST  
**1-877-413-4781 Conference ID: 377 0869**