

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

## Referral-Based Respiratory Assessment Clinic Opens in Metro Area

**February 15, 2021 – St. John's, NL:** Eastern Health advises the public of a new respiratory assessment clinic for referral-based appointments which will open today, Monday, February 15, 2021. The clinic is located at 50 Mundy Pond Rd., St. John's and will operate from Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with the possibility of expanded hours based on community need.

The clinic will assess patients who have symptoms of respiratory illnesses, including influenza (flu) and COVID-19, and provide treatment as well as COVID-19 swabbing, as needed. Individuals may be referred to the clinic through 811 or by their family physician.

COVID-19 testing clinics across the region will continue to operate. The public should continue to complete the online self-assessment if they are experiencing <u>respiratory symptoms</u>. The online self-assessment can be found at <u>www.811healthline.ca</u> and should be completed before calling the 811 NL Health Line. Based on advice from 811, individuals may then be scheduled for an appointment at the respiratory assessment clinic, or at a COVID-19 testing site.

Individuals who are not seriously ill are reminded to avoid hospital emergency departments. In case of an emergency, individuals should call 911 for an ambulance or proceed to the nearest emergency department on their own, unless a support person is required to assist the patient with challenges resulting in compromised comprehension, decision making or mobility issues due to disability, or patients who may receive information that will have a significant impact on their future health.

Eastern Health would like to remind the public to arrive no more than 10 minutes prior to their scheduled appointments to help assist with physical distancing at health-care facilities.

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