COVID-19 Update Employee and Physician Information



Update from CEO and Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) March 31, 2021

General update

• There was one new COVID-19 case confirmed in the province today in the Eastern Health region. One new case was confirmed in the Western region yesterday, related to domestic travel. There are now 3 active cases in the province. Please see pandemic hub for up to date information <u>here</u>.

Operations Update

- We are seeking assistance from staff and salaried physicians to assist with the roll out of our COVID-19 Vaccination in Burgeo, Port aux Basques, Stephenville, Corner Brook, Deer Lake, Bonne Bay, and Port Saunders. If you can support the vaccination clinic without a significant impact on client services/outcomes please consider applying by completing this form (see <u>here</u>). Please complete the form and ensure you have your manager's approval to support this request.
- We will be meeting with family physicians to develop a plan for their involvement in vaccination rollout.
- On Monday, March 29, provincial public health officials advised that the administration of the AstraZeneca vaccine will be paused for adults under age 55. This decision was based on new guidelines from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization, which sites European reports of rare instances of pro-thrombotic immune thrombocytopenia (VIPIT) in people four to 20 days after receiving the AstraZeneca vaccine (read more <u>here</u>).
- Yesterday, we issued a Public Service Announcement to advise that a vaccination clinic for all residents between 55 and 64 is being held Friday, April 2. This clinic is being offered to use a limited number of AstroZeneca COVISHIELD vaccines expiring this week. All appointments have now been filled for this clinic.
- We remind all staff to continue to use the electronic tool for regular auditing of PPE in their areas of work. The electronic audit tool is very simple to use and it will take only a minute or two to enter the required information (see <u>here</u>).

Human Resources Update

Managing work, supporting children, and taking care of yourself may seem like a lot to balance. Join us for two upcoming <u>webinars</u> to learn tips to support yourself and your children. Click the links below to register:
 <u>Parenting During a Pandemic - April 1st @ 11am</u>
 <u>Taking Care of You – April 15th @ 11am</u>

- Please reach out for support if you need it. The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) can be reached at 1-866-784-5306.
- Please feel free to call the Toll Free COVID-19 Navigation Staff Line (1-833-920-0096) or email
 COVID19@westernhealth.nl.ca with your questions or inquiries.

Please see our <u>COVID-19 Intranet page</u> for more information.