

# COVID-19 Update

## Employee and Physician Information



## June 14, 2021

- June 5 to June 13 – 33 new cases
  - 1 in Eastern Health
  - 25 in Western Health
  - 7 in Central Health
  - 0 in Labrador-Grenfell Health
- Total number cases: 1,375
- Active cases: 35\*
- Recovered cases: 1,329
- Total number deaths: 7
- Total number in hospital: 0
- Total vaccine doses administered in NL: 369,160 (as of June 12, 2021).
  - # health-care worker vaccine doses in the Eastern region: 21,073  
*(Includes LTC workers in private sector. As of June 11, 2021).*
- Most up-to-date data: [Provincial COVID-19 pandemic data hub](#).  
*(\*Excludes 3 active cases not in public health follow up within the province.)*

## Provincial COVID-19 Update

- Newfoundland and Labrador is at Alert Level 2. More information: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/>.
- **Together Again Plan:** The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador announced its re-opening plan for the province on June 2, 2021. To learn more, including projected timelines and factors, please visit: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/together-again/>

## COVID-19 Triage Screening Tool

- The COVID-19 Triage Screening Tool has been **updated**.
- **Staff screening** processes have **not changed**.
- Screening documents: COVID-19 intranet [Resources -> Screening](#) section.

## COVID-19 Vaccines

- Eastern Health is **offering earlier appointments** for **COVID-19 second dose vaccines**. Through a **phased-in approach**, those who are due for their second dose will be able to move their appointment up to **within eight weeks** of their first dose. Individuals can choose to keep their original appointment if they prefer.
  - The phased-in approach to rebooking **started with those who were first immunized between July 15 to August 5** and notices will continue over the following weeks in **order of first dose appointments**.

- Please note that not all sites will be able to offer second dose appointments at this time. As well, people should continue to check the website as clinics are continuously being added.
- For more information and full details, please visit the [PSA \(June 4, 2021\)](#).
- Individuals may contact **participating pharmacies and physician offices** to book a first or second dose COVID-19 vaccine with Moderna. The minimum timeframe to book second doses is eight weeks and starting with those individuals who were immunized between **July 15 to August 5**. [More information](#).
- COVID-19 vaccination clinics for first dose appointments continue to be open to all eligible residents who are 12 years of age and older at the time of their vaccine.
  - The vaccines used in these clinics are mRNA (Pfizer BioNtech and/or Moderna).
  - Children 12 to 17 years of age are only eligible for the Pfizer vaccine.
  - It is important to ensure the **correct timing** is maintained between the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines for children 12 years and older. [More information](#).
- When booking your appointment, if you experience issues accessing/loading the Pomelo website, please open Google Chrome and clear your web browsing cache by clicking Ctrl+F5.
- More information on existing clinics at: [www.easternhealth.ca/covid19vaccine](http://www.easternhealth.ca/covid19vaccine).

## Employees & Physicians

### *Second dose*

- The second COVID-19 dose is just as important as the first dose.
- Eligible health-care workers should visit the [PSA \(June 4, 2021\)](#) for information regarding earlier appointments for COVID-19 second dose vaccines.

## Visitor Restrictions

- **Visitor restrictions** during the pandemic continue to be critically important to the safety of our patients, staff and physicians. Full details on visitor restrictions: [www.easternhealth.ca/covid19](http://www.easternhealth.ca/covid19).
  - Please continue to ensure that **visitors** are included on the **patients' designated visitor list**.
  - **One** designated **support person/caregiver** may be permitted to accompany patients while visitor restrictions are in place.
  - If a support person is permitted to attend an appointment, the support person must always stay with the patient.

## Infection Prevention and Control & Workplace Safety

- Everyone's safety depends on the **appropriate use of a mask** and **physical distancing** practices.
- Please continue to participate in our ongoing **mask compliance audits** based on your observations in the workplace.
  - Complete the survey for your unit/area at least once a week.
  - Survey and instructions at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/maskcomplianceEH>.
- There is **no such thing** as a **"work bubble"** with colleagues; while in the workplace, staff are instructed to follow the guidelines below (re: mask wearing and physical distancing) when they are with co-workers in break rooms, cafeterias, workspaces, etc.
- Health workers in shared workspaces must continue to always wear masks (even if spaced six feet apart).

- **Mask compliance is mandatory** in all **health-care facilities; masks must be worn at all times**, with the exception of when eating or drinking.
  - Eat only in designated eating areas, e.g., break rooms, cafeterias.
  - Drink only when you are alone and can properly remove your mask.
  - Keep a distance of six feet between staff when eating/drinking and when unmasked.
- Meetings should happen virtually whenever possible.
- If in-person meetings are essential, masks and social distancing are mandatory.

## Important to Note

- **Masks for site entry:** Staff/clinicians are reminded to take an additional mask home (at the end of each shift) to wear upon entry to the health-care site for their next shift.
  - Alternatively, staff/clinicians who receive a mask upon entry at a screening desk are advised to swap out their mask when they arrive to the unit for the appropriate level mask.
  - For **staff providing direct patient care, ASTM rated level 2 or 3 masks are recommended.**
  - Screening desks provide ASTM rated level 1 masks upon entry to Eastern Health sites.
- Staff are reminded to show their work Eastern Health ID for security when entering a site. Please ensure that your ID is out and visible upon entry.
- Daily **COVID-19 self-assessment:** [forms.healthenl.ca/selfassessment](https://forms.healthenl.ca/selfassessment).

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Report all potential communicable diseases to Occupational Health: 709-777-7777, line 3, line 2, or email [occhealth@easternhealth.ca](mailto:occhealth@easternhealth.ca).

Navigator Line: 709-752-3663 | [www.easternhealth.ca/covid19](https://www.easternhealth.ca/covid19) | [COVID-19 Intranet page](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)