

COVID-19 Update

Employee and Physician Information



June 4, 2021

- May 21 to June 4 – 126 new cases
 - 15 in Eastern Health
 - 39 in Western Health
 - 72 in Central Health
 - 0 in Labrador-Grenfell Health
- Total number cases: 1,342
- Active cases: 80*
- Recovered cases: 1,252
- Total number deaths: 6
- Total number in hospital: 1
- Total vaccine doses administered in NL: 318,558 (as of June 2, 2021).
 - # health-care worker vaccine doses in the Eastern region: 20,689
(Includes LTC workers in private sector. As of June 3, 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

- St. George's-Stephenville-Port au Port Area is at [Alert Level 4](#).
- Northeast Coast of Newfoundland is at [Alert Level 3](#).
- Remainder of the Province 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 reopening plan for the province on June 2, 2021.
 - The plan highlights an overview of the phased approach that will be taken as the province begins to lift long-term public health measures.
 - To learn more, including projected timelines and factors, please visit: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/together-again/>

COVID-19 Vaccines

- Eastern Health is now **offering earlier appointments** for **COVID-19 second dose vaccines**. These appointments are based on when first doses were administered to assist with the province's reopening plan. Starting today 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 will **start with those who were first immunized** and notices will continue over the following weeks **in order of first dose appointments**.

This will continue until all requested appointments for second doses have been rescheduled.

- Please note that not all sites will be able to offer second dose appointments at this time. As well, if a second dose appointment is no longer available in the community/clinic of choice, more clinics will be available in the future. People should continue to check the website as clinics are continuously being added.
- For more information and full details, please visit the [PSA \(June 4, 2021\)](#).
- **Participating pharmacies and physicians' clinics** are offering first dose appointments of the Moderna vaccine. Additional information on the availability of vaccines from pharmacies and physicians will be communicated in the coming days.
- COVID-19 vaccination clinics for first dose appointments are open to all eligible residents who are 12 years of age and older. Children must be 12 years of age 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.
 - Note the **correct timing** between 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.

Employees & Physicians

Second dose

- The second COVID-19 dose is just as important as the first dose.
- Eligible health-care workers should have received an appointment for their second dose based on the 16-week vaccination interval introduced on March 3. For more information regarding earlier appointments for COVID-19 second dose vaccines, please visit the [PSA \(June 4, 2021\)](#).
- If you do not have information on your second dose appointment or you don't have a second dose appointment, please email covid.vaccination@easternhealth.ca, and include your name, date of birth, MCP, the date and location of your first dose appointment and the type of vaccine that you received.

General: Ongoing Screening and Visitor Restrictions

- **Patient and Visitor Screening:** To keep people safe from COVID-19, please continue to ensure that members of the public are asked the series of screening questions as they enter Eastern Health sites.
- **Visitor restrictions** during the pandemic are critically important to the safety of our patients, staff and physicians. Full details on visitor restrictions: 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

- Mask usage and physical distancing are part of a comprehensive package of prevention and control measures that can limit the spread of COVID-19.

- **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:
 - Conduct regular audits on mask compliance 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>.
- **Mask compliance is mandatory** in all **health-care facilities**.
- 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).
- **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.
- Beacon app: [Download the latest employee & physician safety app today!](#)

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

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