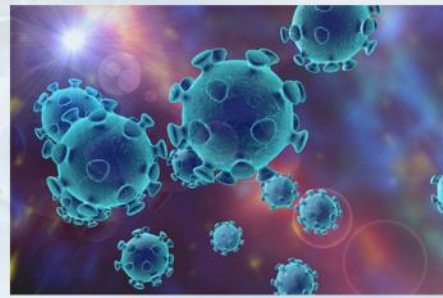


COVID-19 Update

Employee and Physician Information



Update from CEO and Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) September 23, 2021

General update

- In yesterday's provincial public advisory, there were 23 new individuals diagnosed with COVID-19:
 - 21 in the Central Health region
 - 2 in the Western Health region. Read more [here](#).
 - The total number of active cases in the Western region is 3.
 - See pandemic hub [here](#).
- Last week Western Health announced that third doses of COVID-19 vaccines are available for immunocompromised individuals, who may have a lower immune response to COVID-19 vaccines compared to the general population. Read more [here](#).

Operations Update

- 75.8% of the eligible population of the Western Health region have received two doses of COVID-19 vaccine, and 83.3% have had at least one dose (as of September 22).
- Vaccination is encouraged for everyone 12 years of age and older. Walk-in and booked appointments are available throughout the region at public health vaccine clinics. Please book online [here](#) or call 1-833-703-5470. Vaccines are also available at participating pharmacies and physicians' offices.
- With increased respiratory infections in the region, IPAC is strongly recommending staff wear mask and eye protection during exposure to patients with suspected influenza like illness (ILI) or severe acute respiratory infection (SARI). Read more [here](#).
- Community transmission of COVID-19 has been identified on the Baie Verte peninsula (in Central Health region). Individuals from the Baie Verte peninsula who visit Western Health facilities will now answer "yes" on our COVID-19 screening tool question referencing "widespread community transmission." Please follow isolation and testing requirements as per the appropriate screening tool for visitors or patients/clients/residents. Read more [here](#).

Human Resources Update

- If you receive direction about COVID testing and isolation from a source other than Employee Health (ie. 811), we ask that you please contact Employee Health during working hours to discuss your individual circumstances. Employee Health can be reached at 784-5297 or 1-833-710-0408, Monday to Friday 8am-4pm.

- COVID-19 continues to create stress and anxiety for many Canadians, especially health care workers and primary care providers, who are on the front lines of the pandemic. Wellness Together Canada (WTC) - At a Glance is a free, online mental health resource for health care providers. Click [here](#) to learn more.
- If you are concerned about yourself or someone else, you are not alone! Visit [Doorways](#) for quick access to mental health and addictions counselling services. Call the Employee Assistance Program at 1-866-784-5306 or visit [Bridgethegapp.ca](#) to find other local supports and link to online resources.
- 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 [COVID-19 Intranet page](#) for more information