

IMPORTANT UPDATES ON COVID-19

To: Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Nurses, Midwives
Hospital Infection Control Departments and Emergency Departments

A few updates on topics of interest for your information.

Patient screening guidance document – V. 3.0, May 17, 2020

The updated [COVID-19 Patient Screening Guidance Document](#) has created some confusion. For example, people who have travelled outside of Ontario within the last 14 days now fail screening. Also, all the typical and atypical symptoms are listed together and any one symptom triggers a screen fail. Please note, this a screening tool and should not replace clinical judgment or the use of the Provincial Testing Guidance tool (linked below). The use of this screening document is for a screener to identify a person who potentially needs medical assessment while applying appropriate precautions.

Testing Guidance Update – V. 4.0, May 14, 2020

This document, [COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance](#), was updated right after last week's bulletin was distributed. The main change was that any transfers to hospital from another hospital or admissions from long-term care homes, retirement homes or other congregate living settings and institutions should be tested upon admission.

Note, both of our Long-Term Care homes outbreaks are now over. If you are testing symptomatic staff from these facilities, please refrain from noting the old outbreak number on the requisition or swab.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local Timiskaming Health Unit:

Monday to Friday
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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