

HEALTHCARE PROVIDER ALERT

March 17, 2020



Services de santé du
TIMISKAMING
Health Unit

IMPORTANT UPDATE AND REMINDERS ON COVID-19

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

There are important new recommendations for travelers and direction for testing that have been released over the last 24 hours.

UPDATED Testing

Due to an increase in submissions, turnaround time for test results have increased and results can take up to 2 to 4 days to become available in addition to traveling-processing time.

If testing is done on physicians or swabs are deemed to be urgent, please indicate STAT on the requisition form.

UPDATED Direction for travelers and essential workers

All travelers outside of Canada are to **self-isolate** for 14 days upon their return. They may require testing if they become symptomatic.

All workers who have travelled and are deemed as **essential** can return to work if they are asymptomatic. However, they should **self-monitor** for a period of 14 days and immediately **self-isolate** and seek testing direction if they become symptomatic.

Only essential workers who test negative, pending symptom improvement, can return to work and self-monitor as per their workplace policy. All others who test negative, should still self-isolate for the full 14 day period.

At present, there are no recommendations to test people other than symptomatic travelers but testing can be done at the discretion of the attending provider. These recommendations are changing rapidly.

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.

New Liskeard

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Kirkland Lake

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After-Hours or Weekend
On-Call Number

(705) 647-3033

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