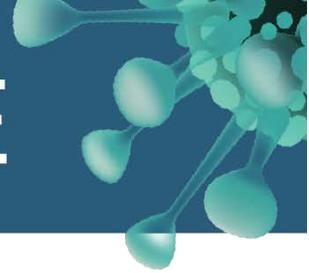


# COVID-19 UPDATE



## Physician Coordination Centre Bulletin

April 8, 2020

### SITUATION UPDATE

#### Update on new and existing COVID-19 cases

- On April 7, the Ministry of Health confirmed 25 new cases of COVID-19 in B.C. for a total of 1291 cases in the province.
- Of this total, 66 patients are in intensive care or critical care units
- The total number of deaths as of April 6, 2020 was 43 deaths in the province, with 8 deaths in Fraser Health
- Fraser Health has 458 cases (April 7, 2020), of which 40 are in our ICU/HAU settings

Source: CEO Update April 7, 2020 & BCCDC

For detailed case counts please refer to the Situation Reports on the BCCDC COVID-19 [webpage](#)

### TOP QUESTIONS FROM PHYSICIANS

#### Q: Should asymptomatic patients in labour and delivery wear masks?

- A KYI regarding PPE use during Labour and Delivery has been drafted and awaiting approval. It will be shared once approved by EOC.

#### Q: What are the guidelines on reusing N95 masks and ways to ensure compliance to these guidelines across Fraser Health sites and departments?

- All BC Health Authorities have been directed to initiate N95 respirators collection and sterilization practices for re-use of N95s *as a back up supply if needed*. The province has issued standard work instructions. At this time, sterilization can occur up to five times. Clinicians are to assess masks and discard if worn / torn
- Medical Device Reprocessing will hold the N95s for 48 hours, then sterilize through STERRAD low temp sterilization. N95s will then be held on site in the location of site COVID-19 PPE
- **This process has not started yet** (April 8), but is expected to start before the end of the week. Refer [here](#) (note: *Intranet link*) for additional details.

#### Q: What is the process to ensure we have enough small size masks (18/60) on a daily basis?

- Each site has their own supplies that are being closely monitored to ensure that if levels are low, items can be moved from the warehouse or alternate location to support your needs. PPE distribution is being managed centrally at each acute care site. Please [click here](#) for more.

# COVID-19 UPDATE



## PHYSICIAN RESOURCES

### COVID Testing

- Testing is being expanded and an update from the Medical Health Officer will be released shortly. More populations at risk are being added. Additional physician discretion will be allowed. Testing capacity has improved. For Medical Health Officer updates please [click here](#).

### Immunizations

- Please do not delay Infant and Childhood immunizations. Public Health and Primary Care resources are challenged during these times of COVID, but it is important to continue to complete immunization schedules. We know that delay or postponement can lead to missed immunizations.

### COVID Case/Contact follow-up at Acute Care sites

- As of April, 3, Public Health staff will now follow-up with COVID-19 positive cases and contacts at acute care sites in collaboration with staff from Infection Prevention and Control (IPC). This applies to medical staff, health care workers, patients, volunteers, visitors.

### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Infection Control Practices

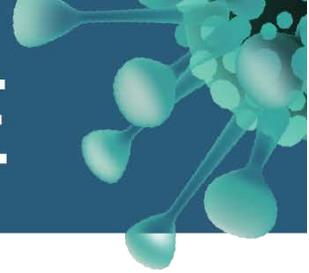
- Common Questions & Answers about PPE can be found by [clicking here](#)
- This [link](#) takes you to the BCCDC site for guidance on personal protective equipment
- Click [here](#) (*note: Intranet link*) for information on cleaning and disinfecting instructions for eye and facial protection and a video on donning and doffing instructions for PPE and other helpful guidance
- [View the Fraser Health COVID-19 Q&As for additional information on PPE](#)

### Fabric Gowns and Scrubs

- Please refrain from disposing reusable fabric gowns and scrubs in biohazard bags due to concerns over possible COVID-19 contamination. All fabric gowns and scrubs should be placed in the soiled linen hampers as the laundering process effectively sanitizes fabric gowns and scrubs from COVID-19 and other pathogens. Disposable gowns (not made of washable fabric) should be thrown away.
- Scrubs in particular are being provided to direct care staff in the Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit, High Acuity Unit, Operating Room, Post-Anesthesia Care Unit and Medical Device Reprocessing Department.

### Ethics Resources

# COVID-19 UPDATE



- New resources have been added for Ethics support for staff and medical staff. The framework is intended to support teams to make challenging decisions in a COVID-19 outbreak. [Click for info.](#)

## Text Messaging Updates

- If you would like to receive COVID-19 updates via text messaging please [click here](#) to sign up using 'COVID' as the keyword. You will be able to opt-out from receiving messages at any time.

## IMIT Resources

- A dedicated mailbox [MedicalStaffRemoteHelp@fraserhealth.ca](mailto:MedicalStaffRemoteHelp@fraserhealth.ca) has been set up to support you with non-urgent inquiries related to information systems. It will be monitored seven days a week from 0800-2000hrs, with a response target of within 4 hours. Medical staff are encouraged to use this IMIT resource for any IT issues, including but not limited to email support, remote access & Meditech.

## Offers and discounts for health care professionals

To show support and say thank-you, several businesses and organizations are offering discounts to health care professionals. Visit the [Fraser Medical Staff COVID-19 page](#) for more information.

## WELLNESS & SUPPORT

### Supporting Advance Care Planning (ACP) and serious illness conversations

- Resources are available to support clinicians to start or continue ACP conversations, and are specific to the context of COVID-19. Clearly documented ACP plans are critical to ensure the provision of care and treatments is right for them. Visit the [Medical Staff COVID web page](#), then on Clinical Resources & Forms section.

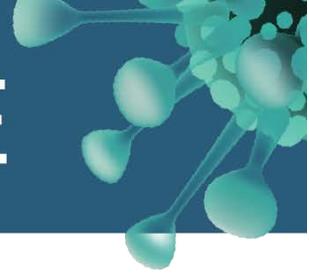
### Medical Staff Psychological and Well Being Supports available

- [Supports](#) vary from in-person to telephone conversations and group sessions. These include emotional support, mental health and well being, stress and anxiety management and self-care tools.

### Fraser Health Physician Wellness

- Peer support for Fraser Health physicians using Zoom (Tuesday noon and Thursdays 6 pm) to support ourselves and each other during this crisis facilitated by Dr Elizabeth Froese and others. [Download Calendar Smartphone or Tablet](#) to install the Calendar on your device by clicking save.

# COVID-19 UPDATE



## COVID-19 Physician Peer Support Sessions

- Starting Tuesday, April 7, the BC Physician Health Program (PHP) will be offering free drop-in Physician Peer Support Sessions every Tuesday and Thursday from 4-5pm PST via Zoom. Learn more [here](#).

## Child Care

- Concerns regarding access to child care arrangements resolved. You can now access child care services and learn more [here](#).

## HUMAN RESOURCE PLANNING

### Medical Staff Availability for COVID

- This tool is being revamped and will be re-launched soon. You will receive an invitation from Thrive in the next 48 hours. Details will be shared in a separate email.

## REMINDER ABOUT MEDIA

If you receive a media inquiry or see media at any of our locations please contact the Fraser Health media line at 604-613-0794 or by email at [media@fraserhealth.ca](mailto:media@fraserhealth.ca)

## PREVIOUS BULLETINS

- [March 31, 2020](#)
- [April 3, 2020](#)

## Physician Coordination Centre

[physiciancoordinationcentre@fraserhealth.ca](mailto:physiciancoordinationcentre@fraserhealth.ca)

The information in this bulletin pertains to physicians and medical staff and is a summary of updates and new resources on COVID-19. Please continue to visit the [Fraser Health Medical Staff web page](#) for additional up-to-date information and resources

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