



Yukon Communicable Disease Control  
#4 Hospital Road, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 3H8

## Memorandum

**Date:** 2020-03-20 **20-09**  
**To:** All Health Care Providers  
**From:** Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) & Yukon Communicable Disease Control (YCDC)  
**Subject:** **Provider Update #8: 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19)**

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Dear Colleagues,

Increased public health measures have been rolled out in Yukon over the past few weeks to help protect our population including the most vulnerable as the number of COVID-19 cases in Canada has continued to grow. Currently cases in Canada are nearing 900, with 10 provinces affected. As of today, there are no cases in Yukon.

Please continue to reinforce the key messages of social distancing, hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette and the importance of self-isolation and self-monitoring with the public, your colleagues and practice them yourself.

The following guidance documents have been updated/created:

- COVID-19 Testing Recommendations – 2020-03-20
  - Expanded testing criteria
  - Two testing criteria documents: one for rural Yukon & one for Whitehorse**Please post the recommendations in your facility for ongoing reference**
- Public health management of cases and contacts – 2020-03-19
  - For those working in non-acute care settings please see Appendix B for PPE use
- Donning & doffing instructions for contact & droplet precautions
  - For facilities who do not have existing policy/procedure
  - Please remember, in the context of COVID-19 testing/screening, if a client has no signs/symptoms, no PPE is required

Please encourage the public to call 811 as appropriate. Changes to this service have been made, including updated responses and a more rapid response time.

Online information about COVID-19 for Yukoners has been significantly revised and includes a self-assessment tool and regularly updated Yukon testing. It is available at: <https://yukon.ca/en/information-about-novel-coronavirus-yukoners#other-resources>

At this time, routine testing for influenza in Whitehorse is not recommended. We are confident that we have a mix of influenza A and B, that this has been persisting for several weeks, this stable pattern reassures us that we understand our influenza season in the territory (see provided memo 20-10). In addition, routine testing for influenza in Whitehorse at this time could unnecessarily inhibit our ability to adequately test for COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

Thank you,



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