



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

## **Memorandum**

**Date: 2020-07-14**

**20-13**

**To: All Health Care Providers**

**From: Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) & Yukon Communicable Disease Control (YCDC)**

**Subject: Provider Update #12: 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19)**

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Dear Colleagues,

As Yukon opens to the BC bubble and adds NWT and NU to our bubble, more Yukoners are traveling out and more of our neighbours are entering Yukon. This is a relief for many as they are able to visit with friends and family and have increased business opportunities. Some are also concerned about increased risk.

There are many ways that Yukoners can reduce the threat of COVID including following border rules, infection control in businesses and workplaces in addition to personal hygiene, safe spacing, and the rest of the safe six. For our part, clinical public health and infection control in healthcare are key tools to reduce risk. We all play a role in our personal and professional lives in order to live safely with COVID through modeling and educating our colleagues and patients about these measures. With continued public and community efforts to adhere to these important measures we remain confident in our measured approach to reopening that is grounded in a rational risk assessment.

As we move toward living in a more open society in the absence of a vaccine, it is even more important to identify cases early by testing the right people in a timely manner and to ensure that YCDC and CMOH have the information that they need to follow up. We are pleased to release new testing guidance for HCPs. This guidance broadens our list of symptoms and uses a universal symptom list for all patients. This guideline invites universal testing for all persons with symptoms of COVID, however mild, when such infection is within the differential diagnosis. All persons who are tested will need to self-isolate, or if inpatient placed on contact and droplet precautions, and all testing must be reported to YCDC.

To support ease of testing, a smaller Respiratory Assessment Centre (RAC), is open Monday-Friday 10:00-16:00 in Whitehorse (49A Waterfront Place - beside Motor Vehicles Branch). Assessments are available with a referral from 811, the online self-assessment tool, and all HCPs. Please note you do not need to arrange an appointment for your client, the client can contact the RAC directly at 393-3083.

Once again we want to thank you for your many roles in our COVID response, for example, in safe clinical practice, patient education, collaboration with colleagues, role-modeling the public health measures and thank you to those who have conducted testing.

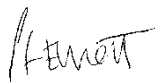
The following clinical guidance documents have been updated:

- COVID-19 Testing Recommendations - Whitehorse & Rural (July 15, 2020)
  - Significant updates throughout, harmonized signs/symptoms, creation of priority groups.  
**Please post the recommendations in your facility for ongoing reference**
- Public health management of cases and contacts (July 13, 2020)
  - Updates to epidemiology section and new appendix for management of cases in school and daycare settings.

If you have not been to the public COVID-19 website, we encourage you to do so as it is updated frequently <https://yukon.ca/covid-19>

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

Thank you,



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