

Bulletin #8: COVID-19

March 23, 2020



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Active screening for staff and designated entrances

Horizon is doing its part in flattening the curve on COVID-19. We take the health and safety of staff, visitors and patients seriously. As part of the state of emergency declared for N.B., we have an obligation to screen all persons entering our facility including staff and physicians.

Active screening is in various stages of implementation across the organization. By end of day Monday, March 23 all staff will be required to use only designated entrances and answer screening questions upon entry. This will occur each time they re-enter the facility.

A full list of designated entrances can be found in Bulletin #8a distributed to all-users on March 22 in the afternoon.

Ordering essential supplies

Horizon, in partnership with Service New Brunswick (SNB), continues to work hard in securing critical inventories on essential supplies, such as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Suppliers are using our historical procurement data as a baseline to provide future deliveries.

SNB is monitoring stock requisitions and requests relative to all of our stores operation and the same approach is being used internally.

Please do not circumvent this process by issuing special purchase requests directly to Purchasing, as these orders will not be placed.

GNB Update: No new presumptive cases

No new presumptive cases of COVID-19 were reported in the province today. There are still 17 cases in New Brunswick: nine confirmed and eight presumptive. So far there have been 865 tests conducted in the province.

To limit the spread of COVID-19, all non-essential travel between Canada and the United States is restricted, until further notice.

The provincial government will have a phone line available on Monday, March 23, which New Brunswickers can call if they have concerns about people not complying with the state of emergency orders. In the meantime, concerned individuals can remind returning travellers of their responsibility to do their part to keep everyone safe by staying in their homes. All residents, including those who have travelled and those who have not, are reminded to follow the guidelines laid out in the orders.

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Ongoing concerns about Personal Protective Equipment

Horizon's personal protective equipment guidelines (PPE) were developed to align with Public Health Agency of Canada's (PHAC) recommendations. Our guidelines were also reviewed by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and WorkSafeNB and our approach has their support.

As noted in Bulletin #2b (published March 17, 2020), "[p]resently, respiratory infections like Coronavirus are managed in our healthcare settings following IP&C Droplet/Contact Precautions." For further information Infection Prevention and Control's Guidelines for Suspect COVID-19 can be found on [Skyline](#).

Questions have also been raised about what employees should be wearing at work. Employees are able to continue wearing their personal uniforms as there is no requirement for scrubs. For further details, please see [Bulletin 4d: Uniforms and Scrubs](#)