

Department of Medicine

COVID-19 Information Bulletin

December 22, 2020

Message from the Head of the Department of Medicine



I wanted to thank all the members and trainees within the Department of Medicine who have worked hard in 2020 to support Albertans through the COVID pandemic. Inspired by the FMC Act of Kindness tree, I have donated to the Calgary Mustard Seed in acknowledgement of all you. Your commitment to supporting your patients and colleagues, as well as your ability to quickly adapt and innovate, is inspirational.

Please try to find some time to rest and recharge over this holiday season. I look forward to working with all of you in 2021, as we get through and past the pandemic.

Jayna Holroyd-Leduc

Calgary Zone COVID-19 Hospital Admission Data

Calgary Zone COVID 19 Status of Patients on Site as of 22 December 2020*



Confirmed: inpatients with an active Isolation order *and* either (1) Positive Covid-19 test up to 30 days prior to admission *or* (2) CD/OM Confirmed up to 30 days prior to admission

Pending + Isolation: 46 | Pending, Non-Iso: 24

Pending: patients with Covid-19 test pending in SCM or ProvLab

Isolation: patient has an active SCM Isolation order

Non-Iso: patient does not have active Isolation order

* Data from [Calgary Zone COVID 19 Operational Reporting Tableau Database](#) as of: 2020-12-22 12:45 pm

All Patient Census by Site for 22 December 2020 as of 11:00[‡]

	GIM	HEMA	NEPH	RESP	GI	CARD	COVID	HOSP
FMC	72	40	30	9	7	64		286
PLC	68	6		14	2	14	16	155
RGH	65					12	15	217
SHC	43			2		7		99
TOTAL	248	46	30	25	9	97	31	757

COVID Patient Census by Site for 22 December 2020 as of 11:00[‡]

	GIM	HEMA	NEPH	RESP	GI	CARD	COVID	HOSP
FMC	8		1	2		1		20
PLC	10	1		1			12	24
RGH	4						13	17
SHC	4							28
TOTAL	26	1	1	3	0	1	25	89

[‡] Data from [CMS Attending Groups Hourly Census](#) Tableau workbook as of: 2020-12-22 11:00 am

COVID-19 Outbreaks**FMC**

- Units with dedicated COVID beds: **2** (Units 64 and 54)
- Units on outbreak: **0**
- Units on watch: **2** (Units 41A, TBCC Radiation Therapy)
- General Support Services areas on outbreak: **1** (FMC Staffing Services Office)

Medical Learners on Units:

- At FMC, medical students (clerks) are **not allowed** on any units designated as on “watch” or “outbreak”.

PLC

- Units on outbreak: **6** (Units 25, 39, 42, 44, 53, and ED)
- Units on watch: **0**

NEW PLC – Emergency Department COVID-19 Outbreak

Over the past 24 hours, we have learned that six additional staff members from the Peter Lougheed Centre Emergency Department have tested positive for COVID-19. There are now 12 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in staff from the unit.

As is best practice in stopping the spread of COVID-19 we are moving the unit off watch status and placing the Emergency Department under COVID-19 outbreak protocols.

An investigation is ongoing and contact tracing is continuing. At this time, we are not aware of any positive COVID-19 cases in patients linked to transmission on this unit.

Healthcare workers identified as potentially exposed are being contacted by Workplace Health & Safety (WHS) directly. WHS, along with the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) are currently completing the contact tracing.

It is imperative that all staff, physicians, visitors and patients remain vigilant and strictly follow recommended personal protective equipment requirements (PPE), hand hygiene, physical distancing precautions and continuous masking and eye protection practice.

Most importantly – if you are ill or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 – stay home. **Do not** come to work and arrange for testing.

All staff are reminded to follow all safety protocols including the appropriate use of PPE at all times. Staff should always be completing the AHS COVID-19 Daily Fit for Work questionnaire - <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page17076.aspx>

Staff are required to monitor for symptoms throughout their shifts, clean and disinfect their work and treatment areas as often as possible and continue to follow all established protocols when interacting with patients and other staff.

Enhanced cleaning protocols including are occurring on the unit. Please do your part in keeping the unit as clean and safe as possible.

Family visitation to the PLC Emergency Department remains restricted to end of life visitors and essential designated support.

The unit remains open and is a safe and appropriate place for patients to receive urgent and emergency care.

Medical Learners on Units:

Staff/Physicians Residents/Fellows can still work on the PLC – Emergency Department provided that:

- They do not have ANY of the following COVID-19 symptoms: chills, fever, sore throat/painful swallowing, stuffy nose or runny nose, headache, muscle or joint ache, feeling unwell/fatigue/severe exhaustion, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or unexplained loss of appetite, loss of sense of smell or conjunctivitis);
- They were not identified as an exposed contact of confirmed or probable COVID-19 cases by telephone call from AHS Workplace Health and Safety and they do not have reason to believe they were in direct face-to-face unprotected (i.e. no personal protective equipment) contact with a case of COVID-19;
- They abide by the current Infection Prevention and Control measures at their designated site and follow the measures below which apply to **ALL AHS, university and student healthcare workers at all times:**
 - a) If ill or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, stay home from work or leave work and report the illness to WHS/OHS; and obtain testing when symptomatic with any COVID-19 symptom. Follow the instruction from the online [tool to access COVID-19 testing should an individual have any of the COVID-19 symptoms:](#) <https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/HWAssessLanding.aspx>
 - b) Refer to the AHS Healthcare worker “Return to Work Chart” (and also the accompanying guide which is hyperlinked at the top of the chart) for any questions related to “May I return to work?” Or “May I work?” <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/info/ppih/if-ppih-covid-19-return-to-work-decision-chart-healthcare-worker.pdf>
 - c) Complete the COVID-19 Daily Fit for Work Questionnaire every day before entering a health care environment. <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page17076.aspx>
 - d) Healthcare workers should minimize their community risks for acquiring infection (physically distance; limit gatherings and go virtual where possible; mask if close to others: <https://www.alberta.ca/prevent-the-spread.aspx>) and minimize their at work risks each day by adhering to current infection prevention and control recommendations including point d) below and applying point-of-care-risk assessments to each and every patient encounter not just upon hospital admission (reference www.ahs.ca/covidppe for any additional resources as needed)
 - e) Be aware that healthcare worker-to-worker transmission of infections are a risk healthcare workers face when at work and hence the continuous masking policy coupled with hand hygiene is required in all of our Covenant and AHS facilities. The masking and hand hygiene are as important to adhere to when conversing with staff co-workers as they are with patients. I.e. it is not intended to be used “just” with

patients. A surgical mask will suffice for this purpose as long as it is coupled with hand washing. ([Wear a surgical/procedural mask continuously](#) and [Do & Don't video: Wearing a Mask](#)). Particular attention must be paid to break and locker rooms and conference rooms.

RGH

- **Units on outbreak: 2** (Units 59 and 94)
- **Units on watch: 2** (Units 74 and 93)

Medical Learners on Units:

- At RGH, the decision to allow medical students (clerks) to be on units designated as on “watch” or “outbreak” will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

SHC

- **Units on outbreak: 3** (Unit 58, 68 and 78)

SMCH

- **Units on outbreak: 1** (iOAT)

Landers Treatment Centre

- **Units on watch: Entire facility**

Renfrew Detox

- **Units on watch: Entire facility**

Sunrise Healing Lodge Society

- **Units on outbreak: Entire facility**

Rural Health Update

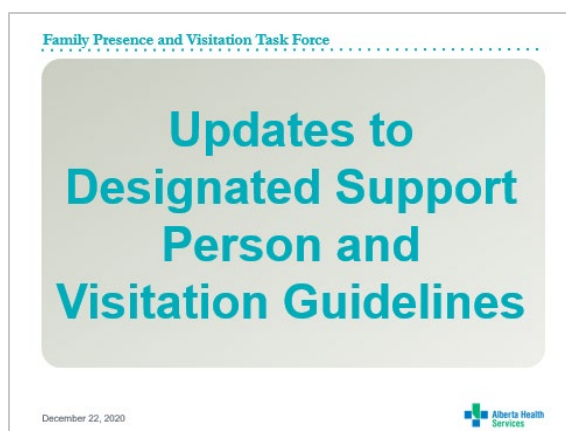
- **Sites on outbreak: 1** (Didsbury Acute Care)

Senior's Health Update

- **Outbreaks: 53 Sites** (Sites of note: Rivera Mount Royal, AgeCare Skypointe, George Boyak, Cedars Villa, Rivera Bow Crest, Bethany Calgary, Brenda Strafford Clifton Manor, Auburn Heights, Manor Village, Cedarwood Station, Luxstone Manor, Travois Glamorgan, Bethany Riverview, Amica Britanna, Dulcina Hospice, Carewest Sarcee)

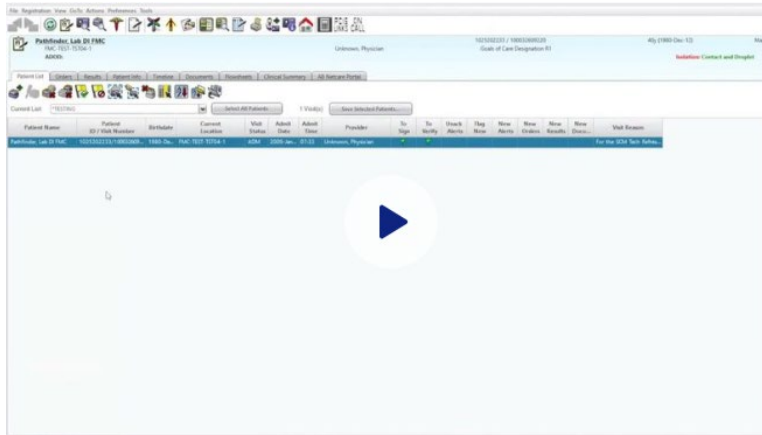
NEW Calgary Zone Family Presence and Visitation Guidelines for Holiday Season (22 Dec 2020)

Please review the updated [Calgary Zone Guidance for Designated Support Persons During Outbreak and Enhanced Community Transmission](#) (21 Dec 2020). The updates to Designated Support Person and Visitation Guidelines PowerPoint presentation (22 Dec 2020) can also be accessed by clicking the image below.



NEW SCM COVID-19 Order Set Demonstration Video

Please click on the image below to view a demonstration of how to use the SCM COVID-19 Admission Order Set.



COVID-19: New / Updated Resources and Information

UPDATED [Calgary Zone Guidance for Designated Support Persons During Outbreak and Enhanced Community Transmission](#) (21 Dec 2020)

- **NEW** [Updates to Designated Support Person and Visitation Guidelines PowerPoint presentation](#) (22 Dec 2020)

NEW [Memo: Vaccination Planning](#) (21 Dec 2020)

UPDATED COVID-19 Order Sets:

- [COVID-19 Adult Admission Order Set](#) (Form 21614(Rev2020-11))
- [COVID-19 Adult Admission Order Set](#) (21 Dec 2020) Reference Only
- [COVID-19 Long Term Care and Supportive Living Medical Management Adult Order Set](#) (21 Dec 2020)

UPDATED [Coping with COVID-19: Addiction & Mental Health Resources](#) (21 Dec 2020)

UPDATED [Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Frequently Asked Questions – Healthcare Worker & Staff](#) (21 Dec 2020)

UPDATED [Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Frequently Asked Questions – Public](#) (21 Dec 2020)

UPDATED [Department Standard Operating Procedure \(DSOP\) from Provincial Population and Public Health Communicable Disease Control](#) (18 Dec 2020)

- For a quick summary of updates, please see the table on page 4.

UPDATED [Continuing Care: Initiation of CPAP/BPAP During COVID-19 Pandemic Response](#) (17 Dec 2020)

UPDATED [Continuing Care: Maintaining CPAP/BPAP During COVID-19 Pandemic Response](#) (17 Dec 2020)

UPDATED [Alberta Isolation Hotel Support FAQ](#) (17 Dec 2020)

NEW [COVID-19 Scientific Advisory Group Rapid Review: Criteria to Inform Changes to PPE Guidelines](#) (15 Dec 2020)

NEW [APL Laboratory Bulletin: New Connect Care Orders for COVID-19 and Other Respiratory Virus Tests](#) (15 Dec 2020)

UPDATED [COVID-19 Non-Invasive Ventilation \(NIV\) in Adult Acute Care during COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (9 Dec 2020)

UPDATED Acute Care COVID-19 Expanded Testing

- [Communicable Disease \(Respiratory\) Initial Screening](#) (Form 21615(Rev2020-12v3))
- [COVID-19 Symptom Identification and Monitoring](#) (Form 21616(Rev2020-12))

NEW [COVID-19 Health Professional Immunization Information](#) (website)

Physician Wellness

COVID -19

ENDING YOUR SHIFT WELL

Take a moment to think about your shift

- Consider three things that went well
- Be proud of the care and kindness you gave today
- Acknowledge one thing that was difficult at work today – consider how you might let it go

Remember the Human

- Check on your colleagues – are they okay?
- Are you okay? Your leaders are here to listen and support you



Now switch your attention to home

- Think of how will you rest and recharge

- [Health and wellness resources for leaders](#)
- [Self-care Tactics](#)
- [Going Home Checklist](#)
- [How do I support someone who may be struggling?](#)
- [Employee and Family Assistance Program](#)
 - [Wellness Check-in](#)
 - [Wellness Seminars and E-Learning](#)
 - [e-AP](#)
- [Resilience, Wellness and Mental Health Resource Guide](#)

ahs.ca/covid

We're in this together.
We'll get through it together.



COVID-19 Research Trials

[Canadian Treatment of COVID-19 Trial \(CATCO\) / WHO Solidarity Trial](#)

COVID19 treatment trials available for any adult patient admitted with COVID-19 illness to Calgary Adult hospital sites. Please page 01815 during daytime hours 7 days a week if your patient is agreeable to be contacted by our team to get more information about enrolling.

COVID ARP

If you bill **FFS** and you have not done so already, please consider joining the COVID ARP. Please contact Christopher Jappert (ChristopherT.Jappert@ahs.ca) for further details.

Please note this will be the final DoM COVID-19 Bulletin for 2020. Bulletins will resume in January 2021.

Communications Team

Department of Medicine

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