

Children's Hospital and Women's Hospital + Health Centre Safety and Prevention COVID-19 FAQs

Q: Which health care workers can be tested?

A: This is symptom dependent.

Testing criteria (subject to change)

- Staff must meet testing criteria, which includes:
 - Fever & cough or shortness of breath (new/worsening – not pre-existing)
OR TWO of the following symptoms:
 - Fever, cough, shortness of breath, diarrhea, fatigue/malaise, rhinorrhea
- Less frequent symptoms associated with COVID-19 include: sore throat, nausea, vomiting, palpitations, chest pain, conjunctivitis. Clinic staff will discuss with a designated medical microbiologist if staff requesting testing have these or other symptoms not meeting the criteria above.
- If you are self-monitoring while at work or are on your days off and experiencing symptoms as described above, you may come to get your test (nasal swab), followed by self-isolation until your test results are back.
- You will receive a phone call with your results.

Steps to follow before going to the site

1. Complete the [staff screening form](#).
2. Call 604-875-2345 (local 2727 or 2277) and pre-register prior to coming to the clinic. A registration clerk will enter your Personal Health Number and other information into Cerner.
3. If you will be absent from your shift, please call 604-63-PEARL (73275).
4. Bring your completed [staff screening form](#) and your health authority ID to clinic.

CW COVID-19 Testing Sites*

- A COVID-19 Testing Clinic will be open specifically for PHSA staff, physicians and paramedics and Lower Mainland Consolidated staff working at PHSA sites who are concerned that they may have COVID-19 and are symptomatic.
- The Testing Clinic will be open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., 7 days a week. It is located [beside Entrance 77](#) on the C&W campus, room E200 in Shaughnessy.
- *Note: Staff COVID-19 testing site location and hours may change. Find updates here:
 - <http://www.phsa.ca/staff-resources/covid-19-resources-for-staff/staff-covid-19-testing>
 - [POD](#)

Q: When do I self-isolate and call 8-1-1?

A: If the following apply to you:

- If you develop symptoms within 14 days of travel outside of Canada
- If you provided care or have close contact with a person with COVID-19 (probable or confirmed) while they were ill
- If you had close contact with a person who travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days who has become ill
- Please use the [BCCDC self-assessment tool](#) for help with decision making

Q: Who is considered a close contact to a case?

A: Someone who:

- Provided care for the individual, including healthcare workers, family members or other caregivers, or who had other similar close physical contact without consistent and appropriate use of personal protective equipment; or
- Lived with or otherwise had close prolonged contact (within 2 metres) with the person while they were infectious; or
- Had direct contact with infectious bodily fluids of the person (e.g. was coughed or sneezed on) while not wearing recommended personal protective equipment.

Q: I was travelling outside of Canada, what do I need to do?

A: Anyone arriving in B.C. from outside of Canada will be asked to self-isolate and monitor for symptoms for 14 days upon their arrival. Travel includes passing through an airport outside of Canada. See **exceptions for essential health care workers**.

Q: Who is an essential health care worker?

A: Health care workers who are crucial to delivering patient care and life-saving services.

Find more information here:

- <http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Professionals-Site/Documents/COVID-19-Essential-service-workers-travel-determination.pdf>

Q: I am an essential health care worker, what do I do?

A: Health care workers essential to the delivery of patient care and who return from travel may return to work – **unless they have travelled to Hubei province in China, Italy or Iran** – but should take additional precautions to reduce the risk to their patients, colleagues, and the public should they become symptomatic.

These additional precautions include:

- Self-monitor daily for signs and symptoms of illness;
- **Wear a surgical mask at all times and in all areas of your workplace;**
- Follow infection prevention and control protocols including diligent hand hygiene and the use of personal protective equipment when delivering patient care;
- Reduce close contact with other health care workers and avoid shared spaces where possible.
- Avoid close contact with others when travelling to and from work and between shifts and self-isolate at home on days when not required at their workplace.
- If any health care workers become symptomatic, they should self-isolate and contact their health care provider or 8-1-1 to arrange for assessment. If they develop symptoms while providing care, they should immediately put a mask, finish any essential services they are providing and self-isolate.

Q: When should I wear a mask?

A: Per direction from the Provincial Health Officer, all health care workers returning to work following travel outside of Canada must wear a surgical mask (regardless of symptoms) at all times, in all places, **for 14 days**.

Q: When do I call the Provincial Workplace Health Call Centre (PWHCC)?

A: Do not call the PWHCC. If necessary, they will contact you.

Q: I am concerned about a possible COVID-19 exposure and contacting 8-1-1 is difficult. Who else can I contact?

A: Use the following resources:

- Email: workplacehealth@phsa.ca
- Call: PHSA Occupational Health Nursing at (604) 875-7244

Version History

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