

COVID-19: Update #16

Updated: Provincial Testing Guidance & Reference Document for Symptoms

Updated: Case Definitions

Updated: COVID-19 Guidance Document: Acute Care

Updated: Patient Screening Guidance Document

Attention: Physicians, Emergency Departments, Infection Control Practitioners, Occupational Health Practitioners, Walk-In Clinics/Urgent Care Clinics, Nurse Practitioners, EMS, Designated Officers, Midwives, Family Health Teams, Pharmacies, Central LHIN, NSM LHIN, Beausoleil First Nation, Moose Deer Point First Nation, Rama First Nation, Wahta First Nation, Long-term Care Homes, Retirement Homes, Hospices

Date: May 19, 2020

The most current case counts for laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Simcoe Muskoka District Health (SMDHU) region are available at [Simcoe Muskoka Health Stats](http://www.simcoemuskokahealthstats.org/topics/infectious-diseases/a-h/covid-19) (<http://www.simcoemuskokahealthstats.org/topics/infectious-diseases/a-h/covid-19>).

Updated: Provincial Testing Guidance & Reference Document for Symptoms

As of May 14, 2020, the [provincial testing recommendations](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/docs/default-source/COVID-2019_covid_testing_guidance-(april-15-2020).pdf?sfvrsn=6) ([http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/docs/default-source/COVID-2019_covid_testing_guidance-\(april-15-2020\).pdf?sfvrsn=6](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/docs/default-source/COVID-2019_covid_testing_guidance-(april-15-2020).pdf?sfvrsn=6)) have been updated to include:

- New guidance to **test any individual presenting with at least one symptom** or sign from the [reference document for symptoms](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/docs/default-source/COVID-200502-2019_reference_doc_symptoms.pdf?sfvrsn=2) (http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/docs/default-source/COVID-200502-2019_reference_doc_symptoms.pdf?sfvrsn=2)
- Additional guidance to test any symptomatic individual who is a **household contact** of a healthcare worker, care provider, first responder or **emergency child care worker**
- Addition of multisystem inflammatory vasculitis to symptoms list
- Removal of hoarse voice and sneezing from symptoms list

Updated: Case Definitions

As of May 11, 2020, the [probable case definition](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_case_definition.pdf)

(http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_case_definition.pdf) was changed to:

- A person (**who has not had a laboratory test**) with symptoms compatible with COVID-19 **AND**:
 - Traveled to an affected area (including inside of Canada) in the 14 days prior to symptom onset; **OR**
 - Close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19; **OR**
 - Lived in or worked in a facility known to be experiencing an outbreak of COVID-19 (e.g. long-term care, correctional setting); **OR**
- A person with symptoms compatible with COVID-19 **AND** in whom laboratory diagnosis of COVID-19 is inconclusive*.

*Inconclusive is defined as an indeterminate on a single or multiple real-time PCR target(s) and is not detected or remains indeterminate by an alternative real-time PCR assay or without sequencing confirmation, or a positive test with an assay that has limited performance data available.



Updated: COVID-19 Guidance: Acute Care

As of May 11, 2020, the [Acute Care guidance document](#)

(http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_acute_care_guidance.pdf) has been updated to include:

- Addition of an outbreak definition:
 - Two or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases (patients and/or staff) within a specified area (unit/floor/service) within a 14-day period where both cases could have reasonably acquired their infection in the hospital
- Guidance on outbreak detection and management

Updated: Patient Screening Guidance Document

The COVID-19 [patient screening guidance document](#) (http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/docs/default-source/COVID-/200502-2019_patient_screening_guidance.pdf?sfvrsn=2) has been updated to include direction that any patient presenting to a healthcare setting should be screened positive if they identify:

- Any travel **outside of Ontario** (no longer only outside of Canada) in the past 14 days; or
- Any symptom/sign of COVID-19.

There are a number of other resources and documents available through our Health Professional Portal at www.smdhu.org/hpportal as well as through [Public Health Ontario](#): <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/> and the [Government of Ontario](#):

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/2019_guidance.aspx.

For further healthcare worker information regarding COVID-19 or to report a suspect or confirmed case of COVID-19, please contact the Infectious Diseases Team at (705) 721-7520 extension 8809 during business hours (Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. and Saturday to Sunday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) or after hours at 1-888-225-7851.