

COVID-19: Update #18
SMDHU COVID-19 Epidemiological Update
Updated: COVID-19 Test Requisition
Updated: Guidance: Independent Health Facilities
Updated: COVID-19 Patient Screening Guidance

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: June 24, 2020

SMDHU COVID-19 Epidemiological Update

On June 18, the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) saw 25 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Simcoe Muskoka. This is the highest single day increase in cases since the pandemic began. Twenty-three of the newly reported cases reside in Simcoe County and two in Muskoka. Nine cases are associated with an outbreak on a farm in Simcoe County, and the remainder are sporadic (i.e. not associated with that outbreak: 10 community acquired; five close contacts of a case, one undetermined). Eleven of these individuals were asymptomatic (i.e. have no symptoms).

This is yet another reminder of how important it is that we continue to stay the course with our measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 as the province reopens. We must all continue to practise physical distancing, hand sanitization, and use of masks when two metres of physical distance cannot be maintained (e.g. small retail settings, public transit), and to self-isolate and seek assessment and testing if you develop symptoms. For clinical encounters with patients with no COVID symptoms or acquisition risk factors, in order to prevent asymptomatic transmission, please universally wear a surgical/procedural mask and eye protection.

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](#)ⁱ.

The SMDHU has created a new resource entitled "[Tested! Now What?](#)"ⁱⁱ which provides instructions to patients on next steps following having a COVID-19 test completed.

Updated: COVID-19 Test Requisition (June 12, 2020)

- The provincial [test requisition](#)ⁱⁱⁱ for COVID-19 has been updated.

Updated: Guidance: Independent Health Facilities (June 19, 2020)

- Reference to COVID-19 [Operational Requirements: Health Sector Restart](#)^{iv} document.
- Expanded guidance for virtual and in-person care
- Expanded guidance on occupational health and safety, including infection prevention and control guidance

Updated: COVID-19 Patient Screening Guidance (June 11, 2020)

As of June 11, 2020, the [provincial patient screening document](#)^v have been updated to include:

- Revised question regarding travel (Q2)
 - Changed from travel outside Ontario back to travel outside Canada.
- Clarification to determine if adequate PPE was worn properly (Q3)



There are a number of other resources and documents available through our Health Professional Portal at www.smdhu.org/hpportal^{vi} as well as through [Public Health Ontario](http://www.health.gov.on.ca)^{vii} and the [Government of Ontario](http://www.health.gov.on.ca)^{viii}

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.

Hyperlinks

ⁱ Simcoe Muskoka Health Stats: <http://www.simcoemuskokahealthstats.org/topics/infectious-diseases/a-h/covid-19>

ⁱⁱ Tested! Now what? : (http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/docs/default-source/COVID-/2020-06-02-tested_now-what---patient-handout_aoda-web.pdf?sfvrsn=0)

ⁱⁱⁱ Test requisition http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_guidance_test_requisition.pdf

^{iv} Operational Requirements: Health Sector Restart
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_guidance_test_requisition.pdf

^v Provincial Patient Screening Document :
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_patient_screening_guidance.pdf

^{vi} SMDHU Portal: <http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/JFY/HPPortal>

^{vii} Public Health Ontario: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/>

^{viii} Government of Ontario: http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/2019_guidance.aspx.