

MEMO

Date: March 26, 2020
To: All Health-care Workers – Physicians & Staff
From: **Dr. Brent Roussin**
Chief Provincial Public Health Officer
Lanette Siragusa, Provincial Lead
Health System Integration & Quality,
Chief Nursing Officer, Shared Health
Re: **COVID-19 – Updated Screening & Testing Criteria**

Public health officials are now recommending that certain symptomatic patients be tested for COVID-19 regardless of their travel or contact history.

This includes:

- Symptomatic (respiratory symptoms of any severity) health-care workers
- Symptomatic individuals (respiratory symptoms of any severity) who live or work in a remote or isolated community or congregate setting, such as a correctional facility, shelter, long- term care or residential facility, or a remote work camp

These recommendations are [in addition to previous recommendations](#) made by public health officials (March 23, 2020) that the following be tested for COVID-19:

Patients with respiratory (cold/flu) symptoms and who have:

- Had *exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19 (*Exposure includes attendance at large group settings where someone has been confirmed to have COVID-19.); **OR**
- Travelled outside Manitoba, including travel within Canada, in the 14 days before onset of illness; **OR**
- Had lab exposure working with COVID-19 specimens.

Manitobans are directed to contact Health Links - Info Santé at **204-788-8200** or toll-free at **1-888-315-9257** to determine if testing for COVID-19 should be considered.



All Manitobans, including health-care providers, should immediately cancel or postpone any non-essential travel and anyone who returns from travel, including travel within Canada, is required to self-isolate and self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days following their return.