

MEMO

Date: October 29, 2020
To: All Health Care Providers
From: Provincial Infection Prevention and Control
Re: **Update – COVID Symptoms – Diarrhea**

Through COVID-19 case investigations, several individuals who have tested positive were noted to have had diarrhea, either as part of a respiratory syndrome or without any respiratory symptoms.

Diarrhea is a known presentation of COVID-19 as identified in the screening questions.

- ED/UC Screening - <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/COVID-19-update.pdf>
- Points of Entry/Admitting - <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/COVID-19-screening-for-points-of-entry-and-admitting.pdf>

If an individual is noted to have diarrhea (or vomiting) for more than 24 hours, even if these symptoms develop in hospital, isolate them and collect a nasopharyngeal swab to test for COVID-19.

- SOP – Nasopharyngeal Swab (Adult and Pediatric) - <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-sop-swab.pdf>

For incontinent adults, if stool cannot be contained, or for adults with poor hygiene who may contaminate their environment, **implement contact precautions.**

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/docs/ipc/rpap.pdf>