



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service
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Date: May 15, 2020

Administrative Circular: 2020:10

ATTN: Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices
Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators
Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

**Re: Update to Communicable Disease Control Manual,
Chapter 1: Communicable Disease Control, Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Interim guidelines for public health management of cases and contacts associated with novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in the community have been updated as follows:

- Content has been added related to pets and the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission, indicating that at this time, while there is evidence that cats, ferrets, hamsters, and dogs have some level of susceptibility to infection with SARS-CoV-2 and may develop illness, transmission from domestic animals to people has not been reported. A link to the [BCCDC website](#) has been added for further information on the recommendations for managing pets.
- A link to the [COVID-19 Adapted Regional Health Authority - First Nations Health Authority Communicable Disease Protocol](#) has been added. This document provides information on the roles, responsibilities and activities of the First Nations Health Authority and the regional Health Authorities in the collaborative follow-up of cases who live in a First Nations community, live off-reserve and receive services in a First Nations community, or have identified contacts within a First Nations community.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Stephanie Meier, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2577 / email: stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,

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Physician Epidemiologist
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc:

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