



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service
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Date: November 17, 2022

Administrative Circular: 2022:46

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: COVID-19 Interim Guidelines

Please replace the following section from the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 1: Communicable Disease Control: COVID-19 Interim Guidelines (May 4, 2022) with the COVID-19 Interim Guidelines (November 27, 2022).

The main changes are:

1. The Diagnostic Testing section has been updated to reflect the current recommendations for testing.
2. Case isolation for 5 days from onset of symptoms (or test date for asymptomatic cases) has been discontinued. Asymptomatic individuals, regardless of a test result or history of contact with another sick individual, do not need to stay home or limit contact with other people. Symptomatic individuals, regardless of a test result, should:
 - a. Stay home and limit close contact with other people until:
 - i. They are afebrile, without the use of fever-reducing medications
and
 - ii. They feel well enough to fully participate in their usual daily activities
 - b. Postpone non-essential close contact with [those who are at a higher risk of developing severe illness or complications from COVID-19](#) (e.g. >70 years old, long-term care residents, immunocompromised individuals, etc.)
 - c. Avoid non-essential visits to high-risk settings, such as long-term care homes or hospitals
3. The Contact Management section has been updated to reflect that individual management of close contacts is not required. Appendix 5: Contact tracing strategies and considerations has been removed to reflect this updated guidance.
4. The IMMUNE RESPONSE TO SARS-CoV-2 INFECTION & VACCINATION section has been updated with information regarding hybrid immunity.
5. Appendix 1: Self-isolation considerations for cases has been removed.

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6. Appendix 2: Travel has been removed to reflect current provincial and federal travel requirements. As of October 1, 2022, proof of vaccination is no longer required for travel in Canada.
7. Appendix 4: Public Health Variants of Concern has been removed. Resources regarding variants of concern can be found in The Pathogen section.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sarra Lewis Vena, Clinical Nurse Educator, BCCDC (telephone: 604-813-6084 / email: sarra.lewisvena@bccdc.ca) or Stephanie Meier, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2577 / email: stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,



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BC Centre for Disease Control

pc:

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