

# COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus)

## Update: Testing Guidance; Primary Care Provider Guidance; Academic Detailing; ARI Form; Virtual Visits

May 26, 2020 at 11:00 am

An Update from Dr. Joyce Lock, Medical Officer of Health, Southwestern Public Health

*Please share with staff*

### Updated Testing Direction & Guidance

- The Ministry has updated its testing direction for COVID-19, effective immediately. It now includes:
  - **Updated – Symptomatic testing:** All people with at least one symptom, **even mild.**
  - **New – Asymptomatic testing (risk-based):** Those concerned they have been exposed to COVID-19, including contacts of or may have been exposed to a confirmed or suspected case. Also people who are at-risk of exposure through employment.
- **Guidance is attached.** It is not yet uploaded to the Ministry's website.

### Updated Primary Care Providers Guidance

- The Ministry has updated its [Primary Care Providers in a Community Setting Guidance](#) to include expanded guidance for in-person care for essential visits, testing and specimen collection, and occupational health and safety.

### COVID-19 Academic Detailing for Primary Care Providers

- During virtual visits, your academic detailer will discuss key areas impacting primary care during the COVID-19 pandemic, including:
  - Infection monitoring and protocols for healthcare workers
  - Primary care operations and maintaining practice in the COVID-19 context
  - Outpatient management with COVID-19, including symptom management, resolution, specific populations, comorbidities, and palliative care
- For more, read: <https://cep.health/academic-detailing/>

### New Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) – COVID-19 Reporting Form

- Our ARI/COVID-19 Reporting Form has been updated. Submit this form to public health when you have submitted a swab for COVID-19 testing.
- Fillable form: [PDF version](#) or [CFM version](#)

### Virtual Visits Patient Resource

- Consider using [this resource](#) to communicate virtual visits to your patients.