# HEALTHCARE PROVIDER ALERT October 21, 2021



If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local

Timiskaming Health Unit:

Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

#### **New Liskeard**

Tel: (705) 647-4305 Toll Free: (866) 747-4305 Fax: (705) 647-5779

#### **Kirkland Lake**

Tel: (705) 567-9355 Toll Free: (866) 967-9355 Fax: (705) 567-5476

After-Hours or Weekend On-Call Number (705) 647-3033

www.timiskaminghu.com

## **IMPORTANT UPDATES ON COVID-19**

**To:** Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Nurses, and Midwives Hospital Infection Control Departments and Emergency Departments

Attached is the updated COVID-19 Guidance: Primary Care Providers in a Community Setting, v 9.0 – October 19, 2021, EN/FR

### Highlighted changes include:

- Page 2 and Item 7 recommend resumption of in person care where required
- Item 9 references the need for those with prescriptions for controlled substances, such as opioids, to get renewals so that they don't seek their medication from an alternate source
- Item 18 encourages vaccination policies for primary care practices
- Item 25 reviews rapid antigen guidance (serial swabbing instead of one off) and has a link to enter the program
- Item 38 cleaning requirements now reference items that come into direct contact with a patient's skin
- Item 39 now specifies that high touch items like doorknobs should be cleaned.