

IMPORTANT UPDATES ON COVID-19

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

Important updates on Ministry documents and the COVID-19 vaccine AEFI form are included in this alert.

1. COVID vaccine AEFI form

In Ontario, health professionals are required to report Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI) to their local public health unit. Public health units investigate AEFIs and provide support to immunizers, individuals, and their families.

- THU is sharing Public Health Ontario's Adverse Event Following Immunization [Fact Sheet/ French](#).
- If you are reporting an AEFI, please use this [form](#) and submit it to THU's confidential fax at 705-647-5779. Reporting an AEFI is important for vaccine safety.

2. [COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance Update \(V.11.0 March 5, 2021\)](#) / [French Version](#)

Updates to this document include:

- Moved Table 1: Interpretation of Results from Point of Care (POC) Testing to Appendix 9: Management of Individuals with Point-of-Care Results
- Updated information on molecular, antigen, and serology POCT (page 2-3)
- Updated to reflect recent changes to LSCCLA and HPPA (page 3)
- Updated list of Targeted Testing Groups (page 5-6)
- Updates to Antigen POCT section (page 6)
- Minor updates to Schools/Childcare section (page 10)

3. [COVID-19 Guidance: Considerations for Antigen Point-of-Care Testing \(V.3.0, Mar 2021\)](#) / [French Version](#)

Updates to this document include:

- Update to align with changes to LSCCLA (throughout)
- Updated information on Specimen Collection (page 3-4)
- Updates on how to access a POC test (page 5)
- Updates on Conducting the Test (page 6)
- Updates on Organizational Responsibilities (page 6)
- Minor updates to Reporting Requirements (page 7)

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
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After-Hours or Weekend
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(705) 647-3033

www.timiskaminghu.com

HEALTHCARE PROVIDER ALERT

March 16, 2021



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4. [COVID-19 Quick Reference Public Health Guidance on Testing and Clearance \(V.13.0, March 5, 2021\) / French Version](#)

This information can be used to help guide decision making on testing and clearance of contacts of cases or individuals suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19. At this time, there are no changes to the routine management of COVID-19 cases or contacts based on their vaccination history.

5. [Point-of-Care Testing Use Case Guidance \(V.3.0, March 5, 2021\) / French Version](#)

Useful colour-coded flow charts.

6. [Appendix 9: Management of Individuals with Point-of-Care Results \(V.3.0, March 5, 2021\) / French Version](#)

Updates to this document include:

- Updated Table 1 & 2 (page 4-6)
- Updates to reflect changes to LSCCLA and HPPA for point-of-care testing(throughout)
- Minor updates to Public Health Management section (page 7-8)