# HEALTHCARE PROVIDER ALERT August 12, 2020



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

Several important updates and guidance documents are included in this alert.

The <u>COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance Update</u> / <u>French Version</u>, **V.7.0**, **August 6**, **2020** contains updates on:

- Added indication for serologic testing (throughout document)
- Updated guidance on asymptomatic contacts of confirmed cases and targeted asymptomatic testing campaigns (p.3/4)
- Addition of Schools under Guidance for Priority Population (p.11)
- Asymptomatic Testing Highlights:

Asymptomatic contacts of a confirmed case should be considered for testing within 14 days from their last exposure.

- Contacts who have had ongoing exposure to the case while they have been infectious, or who had similar acquisition exposures as the case should be tested as soon as possible.
- Contacts as part of an outbreak investigation should be tested as soon as possible.
- Contacts who were only exposed to the case and who no not share acquisition exposures should be tested at least 5-7 days after their exposure.
- Asymptomatic contacts must remain in self-isolation for 14 days from their last exposure to the case regardless if their test results is negative.
- If an asymptomatic contact tests negative and then becomes symptomatic, then they should be re-tested.

<u>COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms</u> / <u>French Version</u>, **V.6.0**, **August 6**, **2020**:

Updated document outlining the most common symptoms associated with COVID-19.

Case Definition - COVID-19 / French Version, August 6, 2020

Updated document describes the Probable Case, Presumptive Confirmed Case and Confirmed Case definitions. These case definitions are for surveillance purposes.