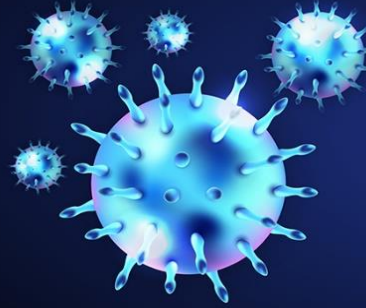


Friday, March 20, 2020



HDS CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 BULLETIN

CLEANING YOUR HANDS UPON ENTRY AND EXIT

As many of us know, hand hygiene is by far the most effective way to prevent the spread of infection. HDS team members must clean their hands with hand sanitizer when entering and exiting our facility and wash your hands often with soap and water while at work.

Proper hand hygiene is one of the best ways we can combat the spread of illness, and we appreciate your support in maintaining a safe environment for all.

CARING FOR CHILDREN DURING SCHOOL AND DAY CARE CLOSURES

Given school and daycare closures, it is appreciated that there may be challenges in securing child care. There may be a number of ways to address this:

- If at all possible, staff are encouraged to arrange alternate child care in order to ensure HDS can continue to provide essential services for our patients and provide support to colleagues.
- Depending on your work assignment, there may be options to work different shifts and different days that may lessen the burden on child care arrangements. Please speak to your manager and/or scheduler.
- If desirable, please speak to your manager about the possibility of accessing available vacation or lieu time or the possibility of accessing time off without pay.
- If none of those options work, the Federal Government has made available an EI fund for eligible individuals. Please speak to your manager. You will be asked to complete the Leave of Absence form which will be processed through Human Resources and Payroll and a Record of Employment will be issued to eligible staff.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A HOUSEHOLD MEMBER RETURNS FROM VACATION OUTSIDE OF CANADA WHEN I HAVEN'T ACCOMPANIED THEM?

Students returning to Canada from March break vacations and other household members returning from out of country need to take precautions to protect their family members. Specifically, the traveler is required to self-isolate for 14 days – not other family members in the household. If you are exposed to family members returning from out of country who are not showing symptoms of COVID -19, you are NOT required to self-isolate and should attend work in the normal course.

Here is a good resource from the Government of Canada about self-monitoring, self-isolation and isolation: [COVID-19 Approaches: Know the Difference](#)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT OTHER COVID-19 TOPICS

To contain the spread of COVID-19 and to provide information to protect all staff, physicians, volunteers, patients and visitors, here are some FAQ topics and links to various information:

- [Risk and Symptoms](#)
- [Social Distancing](#)
- [How to Protect Yourself](#)
- [Cleaning and Disinfecting](#)
- [Travel](#)
- [Prevention and Self-Isolation](#)
- [Public Facilities and Gatherings](#)

COVID-19 ASSESSMENT CENTRES IN NIAGARA

As of 1 p.m. today, the second assessment centre will open. The two locations are:

1. The Niagara Falls Assessment Centre is located behind the Greater Niagara General Hospital site.
2. The St. Catharines Assessment Centre is located at the Niagara Health–St. Catharines site in the Outpatient Mental Health Clinic Area, at the rear of the building and behind the Walker Family Cancer Centre and will have a separate entrance.

The Assessment Centres are accessible by referral only from Niagara Region Public Health. People who suspect they may have a COVID-19 infection are being directed to contact them at 905-688-8248 ext. 7019 or toll-free at 1-888-505-6074.

POSTS ABOUT COVID-19 ON SOCIAL MEDIA

All members of the HDS community using personal social media accounts are asked to continually be mindful of how their postings may reflect on themselves and Hotel Dieu Shaver as an organization. It would be inappropriate to share opinions on work-related information, including photos and comments, about our COVID-19 response.

Official information is shared through Hotel Dieu Shaver's corporate accounts on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn as well as our website. We encourage all employees to follow these accounts and share these official updates rather than their own interpretation of them.

PHISHING EMAILS – PROTECTION FROM ONLINE SCAMS

The overwhelming amount of news coverage surrounding the novel coronavirus has created a new danger — phishing attacks looking to exploit public fears about the virus.

How does it work?

- Cybercriminals send emails claiming to be from legitimate organizations with information about the coronavirus.
- The email messages might ask you to open an attachment to see the latest statistics. If you click on the attachment or embedded link, you're likely to download malicious software onto your device.
- The malicious software — malware, for short — could allow cybercriminals to take control of your computer, log your keystrokes, or access your personal information and financial data, which could lead to identity theft.

Please do not open messages or click on web links that appear suspicious.

OTHER ONLINE RESOURCES

Some other good reference material:

- [Niagara Region Public Health](#)
- [Public Health Agency of Canada information on Coronaviruses](#)
- [Government of Ontario - Wuhan Novel Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\)](#)
- [Latest travel advice](#)

OUR COMMITMENT

- We continue to be deeply committed to keeping our patients and each other safe.
- We continue to monitor this ever-changing situation with our health partners, adding necessary precautions as appropriate. Much like our health partners, we are acting on the best advice of the Province's Chief Medical Officer of Health and other leading public health officials.
- Thanks for your ongoing co-operation and tireless dedication.

#WeAreHDS