



RE: COVID-19 Update

- COVID-19 transmission continues to evolve globally. The goal in Saskatchewan is to detect cases as early as possible and delay spread as long as possible.
- When you test a person for COVID-19, you must advise this individual to self-isolate¹ until test results come back negative.
- Report all positive results immediately to the Medical Health Officer so public health follow-up can begin.

Testing is recommended for any person with:

1. Cough, fever or difficulty breathing, or an acute respiratory illness²;

AND

One of more of the following exposure criteria:

- Travel³ in the 14 days before onset of symptoms;
OR
- Close contact (individuals who provided care for, is a family member of, or who had similar physical contact) with a person diagnosed with COVID-19.

OR

Close contact with a person who has acute respiratory illness who has travelled within 14 days before their onset of illness⁴.

2. Severe acute respiratory illness requiring hospitalization and without an alternative explanatory diagnosis (e.g., influenza);

3. Sudden unexpected death in a person with acute respiratory illness without an alternative explanatory diagnosis.

Testing will automatically occur in respiratory outbreaks in long-term care facilities and in community settings.

Infection Control

Refer to infection [prevention and control precautions](#)

Testing

Refer to [Specimen Collection & Laboratory Testing for COVID-19](#)

¹Refer to Self-Isolation Information Sheet

²Other symptoms of COVID-19 may include malaise, muscular pain, headache, loss of appetite, confusion, rash and diarrhea.

³To date, COVID-19 has been reported in over 100 countries including Canada. See [WHO](#).

⁴Considerations include potential for exposure through mass gatherings.