

CASLPM Coronavirus (COVID-19) Bulletin #1

The College of Audiologists and Speech – Language Pathologists of Manitoba is closely monitoring developments in the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak to ensure that appropriate measures and supports are in place for registrants, employers, and the public. We understand the challenge of ensuring your practice meets the appropriate infection prevention and control standards in this rapidly changing environment. We understand that among the individuals who are most at risk of contracting the Coronavirus are health care professionals, such as yourselves. CASLPM wishes to assure you that we are maintaining our website information concerning COVID-19 coronavirus. As well, the College is actively engaged with provincial health officials on this issue, and will keep you informed of any regulatory matters that may arise.

Furthermore, CASLPM is ensuring staff and Council remain informed and continue to be vigilant with regards to infection prevention and control, which includes:

- Hand hygiene
- Cough and Cold Respiratory etiquette
- Remaining at home if sick

In order to keep yourself safe, it is important that you follow these protocols as well.

College Operations

All in-person meetings at the College have been suspended until further notice.

All business and personal travel for staff has been cancelled.

The current recommendation from the Ministry of Health is to avoid all non-essential travel outside Canada. Staff will also need to meet guidelines from public health regarding monitoring and isolation following personal travel outside Canada. All College Registrants and staff must follow current advice regarding travel from Public Health.

For the time being, CASLPM has suspended reviewing all applications for registration.

About the Novel Coronavirus

On December 31, 2019 an outbreak of COVID-19 was detected in Wuhan, China. Canada identified its first confirmed case in Ontario in January 2020. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the global outbreak of COVID-19 a pandemic.

Symptoms range from mild (fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat) to severe (shortness of breath, breathing difficulties), and may take up to 14 days to appear.

There are important steps individuals can take to protect themselves, or take appropriate action, if they suspect they have been exposed to the virus. Please see the links below for additional information:

For the Public

- <u>Health Links Info-Santé</u> A provincial telephone health information line available to all Manitobans that is staffed by bilingual registered nurses 24/7, 365 days of the year.
- Manitoba Public Health <u>Coronavirus information for the public</u>
- Public Health Agency of Canada <u>Coronavirus information</u>, FAQs and resources
- World Health Organization <u>Advice for the public</u>

For College Registrants

- Shared Health Manitoba Provincial Coronovirus resources for health care professionals
- Public Health Agency of Canada <u>Information for Health Professionals</u>