

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Manitoba Health Seniors and Active Living & Shared Health Incident Management Situation Report

030



Available data as of March 15, 2020 1800hrs

EOC Activation: Monitoring & Preparedness

Questions directed to: PH-EPR@gov.mb.ca

Audience: Please forward to Health Care Providers

GLOBAL CURRENT STATE (Source: WHO - updated March 15, 2020)

Confirmed Cases	New
153 648	11 109

- The Director-General said yesterday that Europe has now become the epicenter of the pandemic, with more reported cases and deaths than the rest of the world combined, apart from China.
- 129 countries have confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- The WHO's Global COVID-19 Clinical Data Platform collects core clinical data from hospitalized patients to inform understanding of clinical natural history and severity. This platform can be found at: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance/early-investigations>
- March 11, 2020 WHO declared the COVID-19 outbreak is a Pandemic. The WHO release can be found at <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19--11-march-2020>.
- WHO is urging all countries to prepare for the potential arrival of COVID-19 by readying emergency response systems; increasing capacity to detect and care for patients; ensuring hospitals have the space, supplies and necessary personnel; and developing life-saving medical interventions.

CANADA CURRENT STATE (Source: Public Health Agency of Canada March 15, 2020)

Confirmed and probable cases	
249	7 MB; 103 ON; 73 BC; 24 QC; 39 AB; 2 SK; 1 NB ; 1 PEI; 4 Repatriated Canadians

- **Of these confirmed cases (revised March 15 2020):**
 - the onset of illnesses occurred between January 17 and March 9, 2020
 - 50% of ill individuals are female
 - **29% of cases are 60 years old and over**
 - 73% of ill individuals are over the age of 40
 - 12% of ill individuals have been hospitalized
 - 1 person has died of COVID-19
 - **79% of ill individuals are travellers and 8% are close contacts of those travellers.]**
- **Pandemic COVID-19 All Countries: Avoid non-essential travel outside of Canada, all countries are level 3**
- All travelers returning from Italy, Iran, are required to self-isolate for 14 days upon return to Canada. This is in addition to requirements for travelers returning from Iran and Hubei Province, China (and any other countries for which self-isolation may be required in future).
- All asymptomatic travelers returning from international travel must self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days. Self-monitoring requires taking your temperature twice a day in the morning and evening, using a digital thermometer by mouth (oral).
- All international travelers who develop respiratory or flu-like symptoms within 14 days of returning to Canada should be tested for COVID-19. Patients should self-isolate while awaiting test results and continue to self-isolate until their symptoms have resolved, even if their test results are negative.
- The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) is recommending that Canadians avoid all cruise ship travel due to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. More information is available at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/latest-travel-health-advice.html#cruise>
- The risk to Canadians traveling abroad will vary depending on destination. For current and country specific travel advice please see the Government of Canada's Travel Advice and Advisories website at <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/latest-travel-health-advice.html>
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced Canada's whole-of-government response to COVID-19. This comprehensive approach includes measures already taken to respond to the outbreak, as well as new investments to limit the spread of the virus in Canada and prepare for its possible broader impacts on our economy and our people. Links to the Government of Canada's Response can be found at <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/03/11/prime-minister-outlines-canadas-covid-19-response>

MANITOBA CURRENT STATE

Manitoba's Health system is now focusing on containment and response.

Confirmed cases	Risk Level
7	LOW

- To date, seven positive cases of COVID-19 have been identified in Manitoba.
- All Manitobans, including health care providers, are strongly advised to cancel or postpone any non-essential international travel.
- Public health officials are recommending all international travelers should self-isolate and self monitor for symptoms for 14 days after returning to Canada.
- Health Links received more than 1,000 calls yesterday. Staffing numbers continue to be increased and technical enhancements are being worked on including an online self-assessment tool that will help Manitobans identify whether they need to be tested for the virus.
- HSC Winnipeg is restricting the number of public entrances to the campus beginning today, so visitors can be properly screened for COVID-19 upon arrival. These restrictions will protect patients who may have underlying medical conditions that put them at greater risk of severe illness due to COVID-19. Patients are now only allowed one visitor at a time. Exceptions will be made at a manager's discretion for special circumstances, such as visitors who require an escort or those going to see a patient nearing the end of their life.
- Visitors arriving at facilities throughout Manitoba's health system can expect to be screened upon arrival for COVID-19. If visitors are ill or have travelled internationally in the past 14 days, or if they have been instructed to self-monitor or self-isolate, they are strongly encouraged to stay home for the well-being of staff, volunteers, patients and the general public.
- Cancer Care Manitoba is asking patients with upcoming appointments or tests to call ahead. Cancer patients may be more susceptible to COVID-19 due to weakened immune systems, so appointments and tests may be rescheduled if not considered urgent or patients are not actively being treated for the disease.
- If you are not sick, and or did not travel you do not need a test. Please do not go for a test. Health Care Providers do not test those who are asymptomatic or have not travelled internationally.
- Health care providers are strongly discouraging from visiting any health-care facility, including long-term care facilities, if they have returned from international travel in the past 14 days, been directed to self-monitor or self isolate for 14 days, or are experiencing cold and flu symptoms, such as a cough, fever, runny nose, sore throat, headache or weakness.
- The Manitoba Health Seniors and Active Living website was changed to <http://www.manitoba.ca/covid19/>
- Self-isolation is recommended for the following groups for 14 days after departing the area, or since their last known contact or exposure.
 - travelers returning from the province of Hubei
 - travelers returning from Iran
 - travelers returning from Italy
 - contacts of a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19
 - laboratory workers exposed during work
- Self-monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19 is recommended for the following groups for 14 days after return to Manitoba, or since their last known contact or exposure.
 - All returning international travelers,
 - Close contacts (within 2 meters/6 feet) of individuals with flu-like symptoms who have traveled internationally within 14 days prior to becoming sick
 - International travelers who develop cold or flu-like symptoms within 14 days of returning to Manitoba should contact Health Links-Info Santé to determine if testing for COVID-19 should be considered. In cases where testing is not recommended, they should stay home (self-isolate) until they are well.
- Manitoba schools will suspend classes starting March 23. They will remain closed until April 13, 2020.
- The Chief Provincial Public Health Officer, Dr. Brent Roussin, has recommended that businesses cancel all non-essential travel outside of Manitoba and that schools increase desk space between students.
- Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living (MHSAL) Public Health recommended that Manitobans practice social distancing, avoid large crowds, minimize contact while in public especially for those who are at higher risk. People are urged to consider avoiding travel, crowded places and events. More information on Social Distancing Measures can be found at <https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/coronavirus/public.html#sd>
- Employers are being advised to review business continuity plans to make sure workers can stay home if they are sick or can work from home.
- In pursuit of a whole of government approach, a Deputy Minister Committee on BCP (Business Continuity Planning) has been established. The committee will be meeting regularly during this event to provide a consistent and coordinated approach to provincial business continuity planning.

- All non-essential work-related travel is strongly discouraged. Health care providers are asked to give serious consideration to cancelling or postponing all non-essential travel outside Manitoba.
- For reference, on the Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living PH website there are also additional recommendations for Manitobans, Schools and Educational Institutions, and Employers at <https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/coronavirus/>

MANITOBA'S HEALTH SECTOR RESPONSE PLANNING UPDATE

<p>Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial level contingency planning is underway. Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) is hosting provincial teleconferences with provincial government stakeholders to facilitate expanding COVID-19 information sharing, response planning, and communications to key Government of Manitoba departments/programs and Critical Infrastructure partners. • Testing for COVID-19 has increased to more than 500 tests per day. Staff at the Cadham Provincial Laboratory are working hard to ensure results are available within 24 to 48 hours after a test is received at the lab. Once a positive test result is identified, the patient is notified by public health immediately. • Technical improvements were made to Health Links–Info Santé on Friday March 14, allowing the service to handle more than 100 callers simultaneously, which is nearly triple its usual capacity. Further technical enhancements are being worked on and staffing numbers continue to be increased. The public is asked to continue to contact Health Links–Info Santé at 204-788-8200 or 1-888-315-9257 (toll-free) for COVID-19 and other health concerns including international travelers who have developed cold- or flu-like symptoms within the past 14 days of returning to Canada. • Shared Health, Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living and Manitoba’s Regional Health Authorities and service delivery organizations have been working on a coordinated provincial plan to offer testing to members of the public with influenza-like symptoms while ensuring our emergency departments and urgent care centers continue to be able to care for all patients who need urgent and emergent care. Two designated testing sites opened in Winnipeg to screen people for COVID-19. These are located at Access Fort Garry (135 Plaza Drive) and Access Winnipeg West (280 Booth Drive); the centers will serve as COVID-19 community testing sites in addition to their regular operations. Two new screening sites opened at noon today. One is at Mount Carmel Clinic (886 Main St.) and the other is at Access Transcona (845 Regent Ave. W.). Testing will be available Monday to Friday 9am to 7pm and Saturday and Sunday 9am to 4pm. • People living outside of Winnipeg who are concerned about their exposure to or risk of having COVID-19 should call Health Links- Info Santé. • After hours testing will continue to be offered by Urgent Care Centers and Emergency Departments as directed by Health Links-Info Santé. • The document <i>COVID-19 Outbreak Preparedness – A Guide for Manitoba Service Delivery Organizations</i> has been shared with health service delivery organizations across the province. It was updated and re-distributed on March 11th.
<p>Operations</p>	<p>Recommendations related to clinical and non-clinical staff meetings are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical Meetings Between Staff: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>(Examples: Essential manager meetings with frontline staff/ huddles in support of patient care; legislated meetings such as Workplace Safety and Health)</i> • In-person meetings shall continue due to their importance in supporting direct patient care. • Meetings shall follow social distancing measures of two meters/ six feet between participants and follow proper hand hygiene guidelines. • Teleconferencing, Telehealth, WebEx, Skype or Facetime can be used if the desired outcome of the meeting is not affected by using technology. <p>Everyday Non-Clinical Meetings:</p> <p><i>(Examples: Departments, units and positions that do not provide direct care to patients; management and team meetings; job interviews):</i></p> <p><u>Priority</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In consultation with your manager, priority meetings are to continue in person and should follow social distancing measures of two meters/ six feet between participants and follow proper hand hygiene guidelines. ○ Teleconferencing, Telehealth, WebEx, Skype or Facetime can be used if the desired outcome of the meeting is not affected by using technology. <p><u>Everyday work-related and COVID-19 Meetings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meetings can be held via teleconferencing, Telehealth, WebEx, Skype or Facetime. <p><u>Non-priority</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In consultation with your manager, all non-priority meetings are to be cancelled to ensure existing workloads and COVID-19 planning efforts are met. <p>For more additional information on social distancing and hand hygiene guidelines please visit:</p> <p>https://sharedhealthmb.ca/health-providers/coronavirus-resources/</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/socialdistancing.html</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● On March 12, 2020, Shared Health issued a memo regarding N95 respirator fit testing priorities. Testing will focus on staff who may perform Aerosol Generating Medical Procedures (AGMPs) or who may be present in a room where an AGMP is being performed. This includes physicians and medical students. https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/COVID-19-N95FIT-testing-priorities-march-12-2020.pdf ● The following NEW documents have been approved and posted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public Health Fact Sheet. Coronavirus (COVID-19) What do I do while waiting for my test results? https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/coronavirus/public.html ○ Public Health Fact Sheet. Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Self-Isolation. https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/factsheets/coronavirus_selfisolation.pdf ● COVID-19 Resources for the Public and Health Care Providers are available on the Manitoba Health Public Health website https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/coronavirus/index.html. ● Regional Health Authorities/Service Delivery Organizations were asked to activate their operational Incident Management structures on March 6, 2020.
Logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● On March 13, 2020 Shared Health issued a memo regarding supply chain management for N-95 Respirators. Coordination of this change will be managed through Supply Chain and Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health (OESH). Inventory will be mobilized from MDA to your facility between 03/13/2020 through 03/15/2020 https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-supply-chain-n95-respirators.pdf ● The Manitoba government is working with the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), and provinces and territories, to co-ordinate a procurement effort of protective equipment. ● Current inventory of PPE supplies is being closely monitored, and regions and sites have been asked to take steps to ensure supplies of PPE, including procedure/surgical masks and N95 respirators, are maintained and that providers and staff are aware of their appropriate clinical use. Based on current planning assumptions, including supplies required by Manitoba’s regional health authorities, service delivery organizations, personal care homes and fee-for-service clinics, the projected cost is an estimated \$35.2 million. ● Digital Health and MHSAL Logistics are providing ongoing ICT support to the COVID-19 Emergency Operations Centre and Incident Management personnel.

REFERENCE LINKS:

WHO Situation Reports <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>
PHAC - <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>

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