



BC Centre for Disease Control  
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service  
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**Date:** March 26, 2020

**Administrative Circular:** 2020:03

**ATTN:** Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices  
Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators  
Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

**Re: Update to Communicable Disease Control Manual,  
Chapter 1: Communicable Disease Control, Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

**Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

Interim guidelines for public health management of cases and contacts associated with novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in the community have been revised and posted to the [BCCDC website](http://www.bccdc.ca).

Key recent revisions to the guidelines are as follows:

- Cases and people under investigation (PUIs) may discontinue self-isolation 10 days after the onset of their symptoms if their temperature is normal and they feel better. This is a change from the previous recommendation of two negative tests prior to the discontinuation of self-isolation.
- Airline contacts have been moved from 'high risk' to 'medium risk' contacts in the Contact Identification and Management table.
- Following the announcement from the federal government regarding a mandatory 14 day quarantine for international travelers entering the country, language related to self-isolation has been changed from 'should' to 'must' avoid situations where the person could infect others.
- Dilution of bleach concentrations for cleaning and disinfection has been changed to 20 ml of bleach in 1 litre of water. The previous recommendation was to dilute 1 part bleach to 9 parts water.
- Links to the following public resources have been added:
  - [Physical distancing](#)
  - [Self-isolation if you have respiratory symptoms](#)
  - [Self-isolation - Guide for caregivers and household members](#)
  - [Dos and don'ts of self-isolation for contacts and travellers](#)
  - [Self-monitoring for contacts and travellers](#)
- Links to existing supporting documents have been updated as appropriate.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Christine Halpert, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2555 / email: [christine.halpert@bccdc.ca](mailto:christine.halpert@bccdc.ca)) or Stephanie Meier, Public Health Resource Nurse, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2577 / email: [stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca](mailto:stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca)).

Sincerely,

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BC Centre for Disease Control

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