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. The revisions include:

- The infectious period now includes the 48 hours prior to symptom onset
- Recognition of the possibility of transmission from asymptomatic lab-confirmed cases  
  o Recommendation to consider tracing contacts of asymptomatic cases from 2 days before through the 14 days after the date on which the positive sample was taken.
- Recommendations for the discontinuation of isolation for non-test based strategy  
  o 72 hour time frame for fever resolution has been removed
- Person under investigation is now referred to as a suspect case
- New regulations for international travelers returning to BC
- Permissive statement regarding the use of non-medical masks
- Updates to Appendix 3: Follow up for travel exposures
If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Christine Halpert, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2555 / email: christine.halpert@bccdc.ca) or Stephanie Meier, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2577 / email: stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,

Mayank Singal MD MPH CCFP FRCPC
Physician Epidemiologist
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc:
- Provincial Health Officer
  - Dr. Bonnie Henry

- Dr. Reka Gustafson
  - Vice President, Public Health & Wellness, PHSA & Deputy Provincial Health Officer

BC Ministry of Health, Population & Public Health Division:
- Brian Sagar
  - Acting Senior Director Communicable Disease, Population and Public Health Division

- Kim Bruce
  - Acting Executive Director, Public Health Services