



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service
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Date: April 9, 2020

Administrative Circular: 2020:07

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
 - 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
 - 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:

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