

MEMO

Date: April 28, 2020
To: All health-care workers

From: **Dr. Brent Roussin**
Chief Provincial Public Health Officer
Lanette Siragusa, Provincial Lead
Health System Integration & Quality,
Chief Nursing Officer, Shared Health

Re: **COVID-19 – Expanded testing criteria – All Symptomatic Individuals**

Public health officials have expanded the COVID-19 testing criteria to include all symptomatic individuals, regardless of their occupation, place of work, or travel or exposure history.

Individuals who screen positive for one symptom listed in Category A OR two symptoms in Category B should be considered symptomatic.

Category A - New onset of any of the following symptoms:

- Fever > 38°C or subjective fever
- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Shortness of Breath/Breathing Difficulties
- Poor Feeding (if an Infant)

Category B - New onset of two or more of the following symptoms:

- Runny nose
- Muscle aches

- Fatigue
- Loss of Smell or Taste
- Headache
- Hoarse Voice
- Nausea, Vomiting or Diarrhea for more than 24 hours

Individuals are directed to contact Health Links – Info Santé at **204-788-8200** or toll-free at **1-888-315-9527** to determine if testing for COVID-19 should be considered.

As previously communicated, symptomatic health care workers (staff and physicians) and first responders (police, fire and paramedics) may self-refer to a testing site for COVID-19 without calling OESH or Health Links-Info Santé in advance, provided they meet the screening criteria. Upon arrival at the COVID-19 testing location, they shall self-declare as a **Health Care Worker** or **First Responder** to the greeter and present their work ID.

Additional information for health care workers and first responders who are self-isolating due to symptoms and who are awaiting test results is available by referring to <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/memo-hcw-and-fr-testing-and-oh.pdf>.