

Outbreak Reporting and Transfer Requests

Central Zone

Some of the contact information listed in this resource is zone specific.

Outbreak Reporting

Acute Care

Contact Infection Prevention Control (IPC) directly.

Congregate Living Sites (CLS)

Sites are to report by phone at **1-844-343-0971** to the Population Public Health Support Team (PPHST), formerly known as CEIR, once the surveillance reporting definition is met:

- respiratory symptoms (two symptomatic cases within a 7-day period)
- gastrointestinal symptoms (two cases in 48 hours)

PPHST will assist with initial outbreak management and control measures including testing and isolation protocols, staffing, personal protective equipment (PPE), and education. You will be expected to provide PPHST with details, including:

- caller name and contact information
- facility name, location, and type
- symptoms
- date of onset
- number of symptomatic residents and staff
- total number of residents and staff on the affected unit
- hospitalizations or deaths

Outbreak Transfer Requests

Communication between the discharging, admitting, transferring sites is required to determine if patient or resident transfers should proceed and to allow the admitting or transfer sites to institute appropriate infection control measures.

- The provincial [Risk Assessment Worksheet](#) (form 19669) can be used for this communication.
- A provincial [Risk Assessment Matrix](#) has been developed to provide direction as to when and how the RAW is to be used.
- In instances where the two sites have used the Risk Assessment Worksheet (RAW) but cannot determine if the discharge should proceed, consult by email or phone one of the following:

8:30 am to 4:30 pm daily	cd_outbreak@ahs.ca 1-888-522-1919	Provincial Communicable Disease Control (CDC) Outbreak Team
all other days and times	moh.central@ahs.ca 1-403-356-6430	Central Zone Medical Officer of Health (MOH) On-Call

- During ***gastrointestinal*** outbreaks at sites, the Environmental Public Health Outbreak Lead will provide direction as to whether a RAW is required or not. EPH can be contacted by:
 - phone: 1-866-654-7890
 - non-urgent, by email: ahs.cz.eph.diseasecontrolteam@ahs.ca.
- Additional information for congregate living sites can be found at: www.ahs.ca/czmoh (see *Outbreak Management*)
 - [Guide for Outbreak Prevention and Control in Non-Designated Supportive Living \(NDSL\) Sites](#)
 - [Guide for Outbreak Prevention and Control in Long Term Care, DSL and Hospice Sites](#)

The information above is **not** applicable to acute care admissions and transfers between acute care sites. Please contact site IPC if there are questions.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Contracted AHS providers can contact AHS if unable to obtain PPE (cost associated): cpsmoperations.eoc@ahs.ca.

Questions about COVID-19?

- Please visit: www.ahs.ca/topics/page16944.aspx or call Health Link by dialing 811.
- Staff who live with family members who test positive for COVID-19 can obtain advice from www.ahs.ca/topics/page17221.aspx

Your assistance in the management of outbreaks with new and changing recommendations is greatly appreciated.