

Quick Guide: Resources for Primary Care to Support COVID-19 Care in Communities

Primary care physicians and Primary Care Networks (PCNs) are critical to the provincial COVID-19 response. This quick guide summarizes resources that can help primary care providers give safe, timely, comprehensive care in the medical home for people who are symptomatic of, suspected of, have tested positive for or are recovering from COVID-19.

Summary:

- Attachment to a primary care physician and maintaining continuity of care are critical during COVID-19.
- Physicians and teams strive to provide continuous care to patients who are symptomatic of, suspected of, have tested positive for or are recovering from COVID-19 through safe methods including virtual options.
- Evidence-informed zone care pathways provide a guide to supporting safe care in medical homes.

Resource	Purpose	More information
1. Community physician webpage (AHS)	The central source of COVID-19 information for community physicians; includes information on vaccines, patient care, infection prevention and control, testing and other resources for practice	www.ahs.ca/covidphc
2. Provincial Primary Care COVID-19 Pathways (AHS & PCN)	Pathways to guide care of COVID-19 in community physician practices and PCNs (both adult and pediatric)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult COVID-19 Primary Care Pathway • Pediatric COVID-19 Primary Care Pathway
3. Zone Primary Care Post/Long COVID-19 Pathways		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calgary Zone Primary Care Long COVID-19 Pathway • Edmonton Zone Primary Care Pathway for Post COVID-19 Rehabilitation
4. Community physician screening and testing algorithm (AHS)	Screening and testing guides for COVID-19 in the community	Community physician screening and testing algorithm
5. Specialist advice support	Tele-advice (phone) for primary care providers in Alberta to get specialist advice about caring for presumed and	COVID-19 specialist advice for primary care

	confirmed COVID-19 patients who are recovering at home	
6. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for PCNs and physicians (AHS)	Best practice and procurement of PPE guides	Instructions for all physicians
7. Virtual care (AMA and CPSA)	Virtual care tools to support care in medical homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AMA virtual care • CPSA Virtual care
8. Community physician FAQ (AHS)	Common questions on issues impacting community physicians	Immunization FAQ for Community Physicians Infection, Prevention and Control (IPC) and Exposure FAQ for Community Physicians Patient Care and Testing FAQ for Community Physicians
9. Rehab advice line (AHS)	Help for patients to recover from injury, orthopedic surgery, COVID-19 or manage a neurological condition	Rehab advice line 1-833-379-0563
10. Email support (AHS)	Community physicians can request support for issues related to care of COVID-19 in their practices, PPE, isolation guidance and resource navigation	phc@ahs.ca
11. Panel Management (AMA)	<p>Primary care physicians and PCN leaders share their experience and tips in the webinar</p> <p>Get panel management tools in the algorithm</p>	AMA Webinar AMA Clinic Management Algorithm