

April 1, 2020

**Re: Exemption**

**Quarantined and Isolated persons who require COVID-19 testing or Critical Care for Pre-existing Medical Conditions or Emergency Care**

Pursuant to the recommendations of to the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Alberta a public health emergency was declared in the Province of Alberta on March 17, 2020 pursuant to s. 52.1 of the *Public Health Act* of Alberta.

Further to that declaration of a public health emergency the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH), pursuant to her authority under s. 29(2.1) of the *Public Health Act*, made CMOH Order 05-2020 (the Order) identifying steps to prohibit persons from attending any location for any time period and subject to any conditions, any activity that could transmit an infectious agent as well as any other steps to lessen the impact of a public health emergency.

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Order the CMOH may, notwithstanding anything else in the Order, exempt in writing persons or classes of persons from the Order.

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Order I am satisfied that the following persons should be exempted from the Order upon the following conditions:

Quarantined or Isolated Persons who require COVID-19 testing

Where a person in Quarantine pursuant to Section 3 or in Isolation pursuant to 7 of the Order is required to have a COVID-19 test administered by a nurse or AHS that person is exempt from the provisions of this Order that require person to be in Quarantine or Isolation to the extent necessary to receive a COVID-19 test and upon complying with the following:

- i) The person is to make a pre-arranged appointment for COVID-19 testing and shall only leave their Quarantine or Isolation premises on the date of their appointment to attend to the testing facility.
- ii) Where provided instructions by 811 or another health care provider the person must comply with all such instructions concerning precautions the person is required to follow to limit the transmission of COVID-19 while travelling to and from the testing facility.

- iii) Where practical the person shall use private transportation of which they are the sole occupant and travel directly from their Quarantine or Isolation premises to the testing facility and back with no stops in between.
- iv) If the person must use shared transportation the person shall, in addition to travelling directly from their Quarantine or Isolation premises to the testing facility and back with no stops in between, also where possible, engage in social distancing of no less than 2 meters from other persons using the same shared transportation. The person shall also wear a mask or other face covering that covers the mouth and nose when using shared transportation.
- v) When arriving or departing from the testing facility the person shall obey all directions from medical staff concerning precautions against COVID-19 transmission.
- vi) All other applicable provision of Order 05-2020 are in effect.

Quarantined or Isolated Persons who require Critical Care for Pre-existing Medical Conditions

Where a person in Quarantine pursuant to Section 3 or in Isolation pursuant to Sections 1 or 7 of the Order is:

- required to receive scheduled critical care that can only be provided in a doctor's office, hospital, or other medical facility, AND
- the doctor's office, hospital or other medical facility is aware of the fact that the person is in Isolation or Quarantine and still able to safely provide care,

the person is exempt from the provisions of this Order that require Isolation or Quarantine to the extent necessary to receive their critical care and upon complying with the following:

- i) The person is to make a pre-arranged appointment to receive their critical care and shall only leave their Quarantine or Isolation premises on the date of their appointment to attend to the doctor's office, hospital, or other medical facility to receive the critical care.
- ii) The person shall advise the doctor's office, hospital, or other medical facility as the case may be that they are in Quarantine or Isolation pursuant to this Order and shall follow all instructions provided by the staff of that office or facility concerning accessing the office or facility premises. Upon arriving at the office or facility the person shall immediately wear a mask or other face covering that covers the mouth and nose if they are not already wearing one.

- iii) Where provided instructions by 811 or another health care provider the person must comply with all such instructions concerning precautions the person is required to follow to limit the transmission of COVID-19 while travelling to and from the critical care facility.
- iv) Where practical, the person shall use private transportation of which they are the sole occupant and travel directly to and from their Quarantine or Isolation premises to the location where they are to receive their critical care with no stops in between.
- vii) If the person must use shared transportation the person shall, in addition to travelling directly to and from their Quarantine or Isolation premises to the critical care facility with no stops in between, also where possible, engage in social distancing of no less than 2 meters from other persons using the same shared transportation. The person shall also wear a mask or other face covering that covers the mouth and nose when using shared transportation.
- v) When arriving or departing from the critical care facility the person shall obey all directions from medical staff concerning precautions against COVID-19 transmission.
- vi) All other applicable provision of Order 05-2020 are in effect.

#### Quarantined or Isolated Persons who require Emergency Care

Where a person in Quarantine pursuant to Section 3 or in Isolation pursuant to Sections 1 or 7 of the Order requires emergency care that results in that person needing to attend to a hospital the person is exempt from the provisions of this Order that require Quarantine or Isolation to the extent necessary to receive their emergency care.

Where practical, if the person contacts 911 or other first responders requesting emergency care the person shall advise, whomever they contact, that the person is in Quarantine or Isolation and shall follow all instructions per 911 or first responders concerning limiting the transmission of COVID-19 during their transport to hospital.

Any person who is exempted from this Order must continue to follow appropriate hygiene, social distancing, and other measures identified by public health authorities to the extent possible to protect other Albertans from further exposure to COVID-19.

The exemption provided by this letter may be terminated or modified by the CMOH in writing without notice and for any reason as determined by the CMOH.  
This exemption comes into effect on April 1, 2020.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Deena Hinshaw". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Deena Hinshaw, BSc, MD, MPH, CCFP, FRCP  
Chief Medical Officer of Health