

From theory to PRACTICE

Dr. Christine Luelo
August 24, 2020



Back to school
COVID-19
WEBINAR

BACK TO SCHOOL

DISCLOSURES



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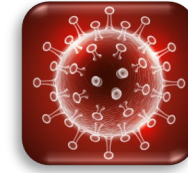
- Family Physician – McKenzie Family Practice – Fee for service
- Medical Director – South Calgary PCN – Contract
- Co-Chair – Calgary Zone Operations Coordinating Committee – Contract
- CPSA – Assessment Program Advisory Committee – Honorarium
- PHARMA – none



Family Practice community clinic

- **Coworker tests positive** on the weekend – find out Monday morning
 - While in clinic asymptomatic
 - Wearing a mask continuously per protocol – mask off only when 2 metre distance
 - Rest of team wearing medical masks, as per protocol
 - ALL CLEAR – GIVE THE CLINIC A GOOD CLEAN AND CONTINUE ON
- **Patient tests positive** on the weekend – they attended clinic at the end of last week
 - While in clinic asymptomatic and wearing non-medical mask – staff all had masks on
 - While in clinic symptomatic and received a MEDICAL grade mask and staff wore full PPE (per protocol)
 - ALL CLEAR – GIVE THE CLINIC A GOOD CLEAN AND CONTINUE ON

**Public health is here to help and does not want to shut down clinics*



Teenager has exposure through soccer cohort

- Excluded from school and must isolate for 14 days – if able to do so separately in home...
 - Younger sibling (5 years old) cannot go to school as a close contact of the teenager who had exposure to COVID-19
 - Younger sibling can continue with other activities and does not have to isolate at home
 - Parents can go to work
- Teen tests NEGATIVE – needs to complete 14-day isolation AND family can go on with life
- Teen tests POSITIVE – isolate for 10 days from Sx onset or when Sx ends, whichever is longer (**if asymptomatic, isolate for 10 days from when test taken**)
- Parents can go to work since not in close contact with the teen, and sister can go to school (BECAUSE TEEN WAS SELF ISOLATING IN HOME)



First Grader has exposure through daycare cohort

- Excluded from school and must isolate for 14 days
- Needs testing
- Older sibling (15 years old) **not excluded** from school (as sibling is asymptomatic) but can go to her part-time job and her soccer practice
- Parents can go to work
- Child tests NEGATIVE – needs to complete 14-day isolation AND family can go on with life, assuming child can isolate in home alone
- Child tests POSITIVE – isolate for 10 days from test (because asymptomatic)
- Parents and teen can NOT go to work or school since they are now contacts of a case – 14 day clock starts from last contact with first-grader while they are infectious



Kindergarten child tests positive when tested for mild symptoms

- Excluded from school and must self isolate for 10 days or until symptoms resolve, whichever is LONGER
- Older sibling (15 years old) excluded from school and must isolate as a close contact of a positive case x 14 days from last contact while infectious
- Parents must isolate for 14 days from last contact while infectious
- If child not able to isolate alone in the home, one parent should be with child, meaning their 14-day isolation would not start until the END of the 10-day isolation for the ill child (total for the caregiver parent is 24 days!)



- Mask exemptions do NOT require a physician’s “approval” or a physician’s note
- Mask exemptions required by a third party (airline) are a third-party service and billable as such
- Anxiety is likely the only medical reasons to not wear a mask*
- Canadian Medical Protective Association has guidance on dealing with patients who refuse isolation under COVID-19 orders, as well as patients making special requests
 - CMPA eBulletin: August 14, 2020
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta has guidance on caring for patients who may refuse wearing a mask for their appointment
 - Hint: Offer virtual OR if they need a face-to-face treat as if infectious

BITS & PIECES

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- Choosing Wisely has a great toolkit “the Cold Standard” that they are actively updating in the context of COVID-19
 - <https://choosingwiselycanada.org/perspective/the-cold-standard/>
- Schools will not require students to have a clearance letter from family physician to re-enter school
 - Family physicians can assist by understanding the guidelines as laid out tonight



THANK YOU!!

For your patience as we try to create new, useful materials with the best evidence available to us at the time

We are building the plane as we fly it... let's all do our part and make it a success

