

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19): Notification and Follow-Up Process for a Confirmed Case

Office of the Senior Medical Officer of Health

The following process applies should a case of COVID-19 be confirmed by the province of Alberta's public health laboratory for an individual with a First Nation identified as the place of residence.

Notification

- A member of the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch, Alberta Region (FNIHB-AB) Medical Officer of Health (MOH) team is informed of the positive test result directly by the provincial lab or Alberta Health Services Zone MOH.
- The FNIHB-AB MOH informs the FNIHB-AB Communicable Disease Control (CDC) team of the positive case.
- The FNIHB-AB CDC team immediately notifies the Nation's Community Health nursing team.
- The client is informed of the positive test by the Nation's public health team or by a primary health care provider, whoever ordered the COVID-19 test.
- The ISC-AB Executive Team will inform the Nation's leadership that a case has been confirmed in the community while ensuring that health information privacy guidelines are respected. The Executive team will be available to connect directly with leadership throughout the notification and follow-up process as requested.

Initial Follow-up

- The FNIHB-AB CDC team will obtain client background information from NetCare and work with the health centre's public health nursing team to review the public health follow-up measures and ensure the health centre has the required documentation associated with a confirmed case.
- The health centre's Community Health Nurse will follow-up directly with the client to review isolation requirements and collect the relevant information to initiate public health follow-up measures with any close contacts.

Public Health Measures

- The health centre's Community Health nursing team will initiate the contact tracing process and complete the close contact information list. Information about close contact exposure to the case and an assessment of symptoms will take place.
- The FNIHB-AB MOH and CDC teams will work with the health centre's public health nursing team to review appropriate isolation and testing requirements for close contacts of the positive tested individual and ensure public health measures are in place to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in the community.

Anyone with specific questions or concerns about their health is encouraged to call Health Link at 811 for assessment and health advice.

This Bulletin was prepared by the Office of the Senior Medical Officer of Health, Alberta Region. Should you have questions about this document, please do not hesitate to email: sac.cdemergenciesab-urgencesmtab.isc@canada.ca

