

For immediate release

April 9, 2020

COVID-19 update

Labrador-Grenfell Health is wishing everyone a safe and happy Easter weekend! We understand this is a difficult time, and while you cannot participate in holiday activities in the typical way, we hope you are able to connect with your loved ones in creative ways. Whether by window visits, video chats or phone calls, make sure to spread some joy anyway you can.

Please remember to keep a physical distance, wash your hands often, cover your coughs and sneezes, and only leave home for essentials.

The health and safety of our communities continues to be our priority throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

We recognize there has been a lot of information shared regarding changes to the delivery of services and many updates to COVID-19 precautions. Therefore, we felt it necessary to provide the public with a current list of restrictions to assist with any confusion.

The following restrictions have been implemented at all Labrador-Grenfell Health facilities:

- We are requesting that everyone call ahead before visiting our facilities, including the Emergency Department, Laboratory and Diagnostic Imaging. Our staff will provide direction for when you visit.
- Critically ill patients may be directed to use the Emergency Department entrance as opposed to the main designated entrance.

Entrance Restrictions

- All persons entering health facilities will be screened before entering and provided with direction regarding their visit. Please use only the following entrances:

	Entryway Before 10:00 p.m.	Entryway After 10:00 p.m.
Labrador West Health Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Department entrance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Department entrance
Labrador Health Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main entrance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Department entrance
Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main entrance (Rotunda) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Department entrance

White Bay Central Health Centre and Strait of Belle Isle Health Centre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main entrance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main Entrance
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** Labrador South Health Centre will use the Emergency Department entrance. Those entering long-term care may use the long-term care entrance.*

Surgeries

- Only urgent/ emergent surgeries will take place.
- All elective surgeries are being rebooked.
- Labrador-Grenfell Health will contact affected individuals about their surgery.

Services continuing

- Blood collections services by appointment only. More information available [here](#).
- Alternative methods for delivering care such as telephone consults or virtual care has been implemented in lieu of in-person consultations when appropriate.
- More information on services continuing is available [here](#).

Other services

- Finance offices closed to the public. More information available [here](#).
- Health Records offices are closed to the public. More information available [here](#).
- Cafeterias are closed to the public. More information available [here](#).

Other restrictions

- We ask that you not bring outside food or drink into our health facilities, including dropping items off for patients, resident and staff.
- Only clean clothes will be accepted for residents in long-term care or for admitted patients.
- No toiletries or other items accepted for patients. Labrador-Grenfell Health is temporarily providing these.

Visitors

- No visitors permitted in long-term care homes.
- No persons are permitted to wait in our facilities. If you are bringing someone to an appointment, i.e. Emergency Department, dialysis, Outpatient Departments, please drop them off and return to pick them up.
- Only those seeking health services are permitted within health facilities except for designated visitors as outlined below. This includes individuals accompanying clients or patients seeking services.
 - *Only designated visitors for palliative care patients.
 - *One designated support person for labour and delivery patients.
 - *One designated visitor for admitted children.

- *One designated visitor for patients who require interpretations services.

** To learn more about these restrictions, please contact the department in your area.*

***We ask that you make arrangements for childcare if you have an appointment to minimize the potential spread of COVID-19.*

Volunteers

- Volunteering is temporarily suspended.

Students

- University and college student placements will continue.

Gatherings

- The use of healthcare facilities for community groups is suspended.

We are encouraging all persons presenting at our health facilities to come alone to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this time.

For more information and regular updates on COVID-19, please visit the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador website at www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19.