

LTC/AL PROVIDERS COVID-19 TOWN HALL

DECEMBER 14, 2021

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AGENDA

Support for Independent Living	Susan Brown Director, Clinical Programs, Pandemic Response-Prevention and Outbreak Management
Airborne spread of COVID-19	Dr. Aamir Bharmal Medical Health Officer
Update on Omicron COVID-19 variant	Dr. Aamir Bharmal
Update on transfer guidance	Andrea Pomeroy Clinical Nurse Specialist Carol McNeil Manager- LTC AL Coordination Centre Kimberley Choi Access, Care and Transitions (ACT) Manager
Q&A	Susan Brown



We conduct our business on the unceded and traditional shared territories of the Katzie, Semiahmoo, Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem and Tsawwassen First Nations.



SUPPORT FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

DECEMBER 14, 2021

Susan Brown | Director, Clinical Programs, Pandemic Response-Prevention and Outbreak Management

SUPPORT FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

- We are moving towards a new self-management model of COVID-19 response support for independent living (IL).
- New model to include providing high-level guidance that is specific and appropriate for independent living settings, rather than an adaption of guidance designed for long-term care settings.
- Supporting guidance will include how IL can self-manage case and contact management, along with infection prevention and control practices.
- Public Health will continue to provide ongoing support and monitoring to independent living during large COVID-19 outbreaks.



AIRBORNE SPREAD OF COVID-19

DECEMBER 14 2021

Dr. Aamir Bharmal | Medical Health Officer



AIRBORNE SPREAD OF COVID-19

- Increasing recognition COVID-19 spreads through the air, like second-hand smoke.
- Vast majority of COVID-19 spread still occurs being in close contact with others.

ACTION REQUIRED:

- To help reduce spread, recommendations include:
 - maintain/upgrade ventilation system/open windows to increase ventilation
 - use high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters to clean indoor air
 - wear a medical mask
 - maintain two metres physical distancing and limit indoor crowding



UPDATE ON OMICRON COVID-19 VARIANT

DECEMBER 14, 2021

Dr. Aamir Bharmal



UPDATE ON OMICRON COVID-19 VARIANT

- First case of Omicron variant has been identified in B.C.
- Notable for its large number of mutations that could affect its transmissibility and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines
- More study required as variant discovered in South African context where vaccination rate is significantly smaller than B.C. vaccination rate.
- Long-term care settings are among the safest places because residents and tenants have received booster doses of vaccine and they're not travelling; staff are fully vaccinated; and symptom screening is in place.

ACTION REQUIRED:

- We can protect ourselves and others and help prevent variant spread by continuing to do what we know works: maintain physical distancing, symptom screening, getting vaccinated, wearing medical masks, hand hygiene



UPDATE ON TRANSFER GUIDANCE

DECEMBER 14, 2021

Andrea Pomeroy | Clinical Nurse Specialist

Carol McNeil | Manager Prevention and Response-LTC AL Coordination Centre

Kimberley Choi | Clinical Nurse Manager

UPDATE ON TRANSFER GUIDANCE

- The acute and community algorithms have been merged and simplified
- Appendix 1: COVID-19 Transfer of Patients from Acute Care to LTC/AL has been revised
- Additional scenarios provided for acute transfers to include Acute Care Alerts and Enhanced Monitoring
- [COVID_19_LTC_AL_Admissions_Transfer_Guidance.pdf](#)

Q&A

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Everyone is encouraged to participate.