

Sept 1st, 2022

Sent on behalf of the Fraser Health Integrated Long-Term Care and Assisted Living Services

***UPDATE * COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control & Outbreak Management Protocol: Guidance for LTC and AL Settings**

- [COVID-19 Infection Prevention Control Guidance for LTC/AL](#) has been updated effective August 31, 2022
 - Visitor guidelines are **referenced**, however there are no changes at this time
 - Clarification that screeners are not required to have a clinical background
 - Admission and transfers of residents: all unvaccinated residents being admitted into a care home should be monitored for symptoms for 10 days upon move in. This includes transitions from acute care, community, and transfer from other care homes, including those receiving respite services within a care home. Isolation is not required.
- [Outbreak Management Protocol](#) has been updated effective Aug 22, 2022
 - This document provides guidance for managing COVID-19 cases and contacts during an outbreak in long-term care (LTC) facilities and seniors' assisted living (AL) units/facilities that are located within, or functionally connected to, a LTC setting. This version replaces the one published on February 2, 2022.
 - Key updates: The definition of an outbreak has been updated [pgs. 2 and 6] to hyperlink to the BC Centre of Disease Control's Communicable Disease manual, which now includes detailed considerations for declaring an outbreak.

***NEW * Immunization plans for the fall**

- Individuals that are registered with ImmBC will have received a message that a booster dose will be available in this fall.
- More details are to follow regarding plans for immunization.

***UPDATE* Revised LTC AL Planning for Extreme Summer Heat Guidelines**

- Please see updated [LTC/AL Planning for Extreme Summer Heat Guidelines](#), available on the [Extreme heat](#) - Fraser Health website.
- Removed "use fans with caution, if the room temperatures is above 35 degrees" and revised guidelines for fan use section to include "avoid the use of large industrial hall fans in resident care areas".
- Added note to Guidelines for Fan Use section: if fan and portable AC use is necessary during special circumstances (i.e. enhanced monitoring), respiratory outbreaks, during extreme heat even please, consult IPC for further guidance.

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***NEW* Opportunity to be part of our LTC/AL Emergency Management Working Group**

- We are looking for 3 LTC and AL operator representatives from the north, south and east regions to participate in our working group on an ad hoc basis. Frequency up to one hour every 2-3 weeks depending on needs
- The Emergency Management Working Group is responsible for ensuring the preparedness of LTC and AL care homes for various environmental and seasonal emergencies.
- This includes identifying the priority of potential emergencies to be prepared for and ensuring that tools and resources are developed and implemented with care homes to support with local readiness.
- If you are interested to be a member representative for LTC and AL please contact Nitu Mankatala at nitu.mankatala@fraserhealth.ca. Please indicate for which region/area you wish to be a representative.