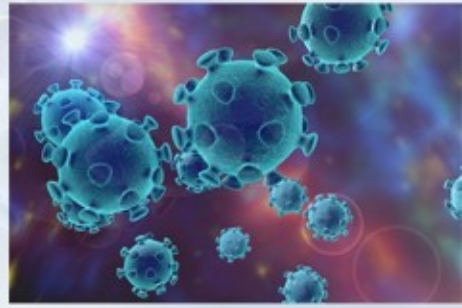


COVID-19 Update

Employee and Physician Information



Eastern Health Memo from the Vice President

March 27, 2020

Re: *Appropriate use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during COVID-19 pandemic*

We are using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) significantly more than at our usual rate. While there is a heightened level of anxiety around COVID-19, we need to work together to ensure that PPE is used only for when necessary according to the guidelines established by the Chief Provincial Medical Officer of Health.

While Eastern Health has a sufficient supply of PPE at this time, and we are working diligently to secure alternative suppliers and sources, it is still essential that employees and physicians use PPE correctly – to conserve stock for when it is needed. Please make sure you are using the right type of PPE for every situation.

The safety of our staff, their families and those we care for is our priority. Now more than ever, I would like to stress to you the importance of proper use and conservation of PPE such as gowns, masks, gloves, hand sanitizers, face shields and wipes.

We all have a responsibility to ensure that the needed PPE is available to our colleagues as they care for those impacted by the COVID-19 virus. The current rate of usage is increasing and is anticipated to increase further. Because of the global shortage, we have been managing the supply carefully but need your support to follow the guidelines that have been put in place to manage our current stock while we continue to aggressively pursue alternate sources.

For a listing of a list of frequently asked questions on this topic, please see the [COVID-19 intranet page](#).

If you have any ideas or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Occupational Health and Workplace Safety at 777-7777 line 3, press 2, or via email at: mysafety@easternhealth.ca.

We thank you for your continued efforts and support during this challenging time.

Judy O’Keefe

Vice President with responsibility for population and public health

Incident Commander, COVID-19 Emergency Operations Centre