



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

May 15, 2020

PPE Update for Community-Based Physicians

Earlier this week, the NLMA put a call out to FFS members with community practices to provide an estimate of how much PPE all physicians and staff in their practice will require per week.

NLMA received an excellent response from community practices that represent 370 physicians, as well 70 other health professionals and 385 administrative staff. We believe this represents the vast majority of community-based practices who do not currently have access to the provincial PPE inventory.

The total estimated weekly provincial requirement for surgical/medical masks, per week, is 3,968. On the basis that every patient attending a hospital appointment is provided with a mask, members also estimated the provincial number of procedural masks for patients in their clinics at 6,522 per week. The other estimates included 1,633 shields, 2,567 gowns, 6,305 nitrile gloves and 11,956 non-sterile gloves.

This afternoon, the NLMA presented the results of the PPE needs assessment to the Department of Health and Community Services. NLMA will continue discussions with the Department to determine whether or to what extent these needs can be met from the current inventory of RHAs, as well as whether they can be included in a separate procurement package. We will continue to update members on progress of these discussions.

*Representing and supporting a united medical profession and providing leadership
in the provision of excellent health care in Newfoundland and Labrador*