



Pandemic Preparedness Addendum C: Residential Services

Phase 2 - Response Plan for COVID-19

Revision Date:

February 23, 2022

This document will provide guidance to staff during a pandemic event. This plan will be specifically tailored for Residential Services with NEXUS. This document is meant to accompany NEXUS Pandemic Continuity Plan - HC017. This plan may be revised as more information is available.

Step 1- Accessing the Risk Within the Workplace

First level protection (elimination):

- All staff will complete a self assessment regarding if they have developed any symptoms of COVID-19 and/or are tested for COVID-19 staff must inform their supervisor, designate or On-Call Manager immediately and not enter any NEXUS site.
- Staff are required to wear a medical grade mask while on shift
- All visitors must wear a medical grade mask at all times even when a 6 feet distance is maintained. Staff and visitors will be required to use hand sanitizer when entering any NEXUS site.
- Staff and visitors must complete a screening questionnaire prior to entering any residential site.
- Staff will ensure they are engaging in good hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene. This includes:
 - Avoid touching your face.
 - Increase your personal space, whenever possible, to 6 feet.
 - Wash hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
 - If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol.

Cover the mouth and nose during coughing or sneezing with a tissue or a flexed elbow and immediately dispose, wash hands immediately after with soap and water.

- Non-essential visits within NEXUS homes and programs are permitted with the following guidelines;
 - All visitors are screened prior to any visit and the Visitor Monitoring form completed
 - Medical grade masks must be worn even when a 6 feet distance is maintained.

Where possible, visitors should arrange visits to the homes that do not overlap with visits of other families or arranged visits.

- Staff must wear a medical grade mask, at any time where there is greater than one person in the vehicle. Supported individuals must also wear a mask in the vehicle when and where possible.
- All community outings will follow Provincial Health Orders at all times. Individuals who cannot follow such orders should partake in other activities in which they can follow safety protocols.
- Agency vehicles must be sanitized after each use.

Step 2 - Second level protection (engineering controls):

- Practice physical distancing, ensuring 6 feet or two arm's lengths space from individuals and staff will be maintained whenever possible.
- Furniture will be rearranged or removed, to assist with physical distancing.
- Signage will be placed on the front door instructing individuals entering the building that they are not permitted to enter if;
 - They have flu like symptoms,
 - They have been in contact with someone who is COVID-19 positive (presumptive or confirmed),
 - Have been directed to self-isolate by a healthcare professional.

Step 3 - Third level protection (administrative controls):

- The enhanced cleaning schedule will continue to be conducted.
- Any shared equipment such as phones or pens should be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- Staff will be instructed to use their own equipment, such as pens, staplers, headsets, and computers.
- All suppliers and/or delivery persons will be instructed to drop off goods at building entrance.
- Residential and Community Inclusion staff will have daily communications, through the individual's daily communication book (if applicable), ShareVision or Microsoft Teams to work together so that there is constant approaches and collaborative brainstorming of on-going risk mitigation strategies
- All staff are required to take the following courses on ShareVision;
 - Hand Washing
 - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - Use of Homemade masks at work
- At all times, the number of different staff that support individuals should be kept to a minimum (when operationally possible). This can reduce the likelihood of transmission from staff to individuals and individuals to staff.

New Intakes

- All new intakes into residential services must have a COVID-19 test completed and returned prior to entering service.
- Though not mandatory, it is strongly encouraged that all individuals living in our homes receive the COVID-19 vaccine.