

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** All Health PEI Staff & Physicians  
**FROM:** Allison Wyatt, Director, Occupational Health, Safety & Wellness  
**DATE:** May 13, 2024  
**SUBJECT:** Deactivation of Health PEI Respiratory Illness (COVID-19 and Influenza) Immunization and Management Policy

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Respiratory illness surveillance and trending is monitored throughout PEI and across Canada for viruses, such as influenza and COVID-19. Based on the current surveillance data for respiratory illnesses within Health PEI patients and staff, in addition to Chief Public Health Office (CPHO) data and trending across Atlantic Canada, it is clear that respiratory illness season is coming to a close.

**Effective May 13, 2024, the Executive Leadership Team, in collaboration with Occupational Health, Safety & Wellness, Infection Prevention & Control, and PEI's CPHO, has approved the deactivation of measures within the Health PEI Respiratory Illness (COVID-19 and Influenza) Immunization and Management Policy.**

For all Healthcare Workers:

1. Universal masking is no longer mandatory for all direct patient care;
2. Follow routine personal protective equipment practices;
3. Follow routine practices, e.g., hand hygiene, cleaning of patient care equipment and the environment.

As we look ahead to enjoying our summer, we are also actively preparing for the next respiratory season in the fall! Health PEI is committed to the protection of our employees, physicians, students, volunteers, and contract workers. COVID-19 and influenza immunization guidelines, along with further information regarding the fall 2024 COVID-19 and influenza immunization campaign provided by your Employee Health Nursing Team will be shared.

Health PEI will remain in contact with CPHO to monitor surveillance data, trends, and up to date immunization recommendations as we enter the 2024-2025 respiratory illness season and reactivate the Health PEI Respiratory Illness (COVID-19 and Influenza) Immunization and Management Policy, when required.

Information can also be found on the Staff Resource Centre, Occupational Health, Safety & Wellness page <https://src.healthpei.ca/respiratory-illness-guidance-documentation-protocol>

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the prevention of respiratory illnesses within our facilities and communities.

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