

# BULLETIN

03-COVID-19

April 2, 2020

To: Authorized Employers of Community Peace Officers Level 1  
Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Branch  
Parks Enforcement Branch  
Sheriffs Branch

## **Re: Admission Screening COVID -19**

Although these processes are designed for Corrections Officers (CO), they can be considered by law enforcement officers as is or as supplementary information to existing policies.

In cooperation with AHS corrections healthcare staff, this process is to be used by all CO when incarcerated individuals are admitted to holding cells, remand, correctional or youth correctional facilities in Alberta. These questions will be asked of all incarcerated individuals as soon as they are brought into Admissions and Discharge:

1. Do you have a fever, new cough that started within the last 14 days, sore throat, or difficulties breathing?
  - a. If yes, please advise the detained person to clean their hands and immediately put on a mask. Proceed with script.
  - b. If no, Proceed with the script.
2. Ask the following:
  - a. In the last 14 days before illness onset, have you travelled anywhere outside of Canada?
  - b. In the last 14 days, have you had close contact with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19, also called Coronavirus?
  - c. Have you had close contact with a person who has had a fever, cough, sore throat or breathing difficulties who has travelled anywhere outside of Canada within the past 14 days?

**If NO to all questions in Number 1 & 2**, the detained person may be housed in general population or other housing deemed appropriate by CO. **PPE is not required.**

**If YES to Number 1**, the inmate is to be placed in isolation until assessed by AHS corrections healthcare staff. **Place a mask on the inmate.**

**If NO to Number 1 and YES to any question in Number 2, Place a mask on the inmate.** Refer to AHS correctional healthcare staff. The inmate will need to remain in isolation for 14 days. AHS correctional healthcare staff and CO staff per centre process and resources will monitor the inmate daily for signs and/or symptoms of COVID-19.

If inmate answers “**Yes**” to question 1 or 2 above **and** staff will be within 2m (6 feet) of the inmate, **PPE including protective mask, eye protection, gown and gloves** will be used.

If the inmate answers “**Yes**” to question 1 or 2 above, the inmate should be masked while in the common Admissions area.

#### Daily Unit Symptom Screening and upon Release/Transfer or External Escort

**When AHS staff are not available** the following screenings will occur for:

- ALL non isolated patients will be screened daily for symptoms.
- ALL transfer/releases/discharges and other community escorts
  - Do you have a fever, new cough that started within the last 14 days, sore throat, or difficulties breathing?
  - If the answer is yes give the inmate a procedure mask, isolate and refer to Corrections Healthcare staff for further screening and assessment.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

When interviewing inmates and asking Questions 1 and 2 above, all efforts should be made to assess the inmate from 2 meters (6 feet) away or behind a barrier. If not directly interacting with inmate or contaminated equipment, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is not required.

**Transport/Escort Staff** If it is not possible to keep distance a distance of 2 meters (6 feet) between the officer and the inmate, the officer is to don a Mask, Eye Protection and gloves.

PPE is to be changed only if the officer and inmate are in direct physical contact or the PPE becomes wet/soiled. PPE is to be changed before staff breaks/ shift change.

PPE is to be removed when inmate handling is complete. Wash your hands thoroughly after removing PPE. **N95** Respirators are **not** indicated.

Thank you.

Sean Bonneteau, CD  
Director  
Law Enforcement Standards and Audits