

2020-04-22 Expectations of regulated health professionals

On March 23, 2020, Dr. Bonnie Henry, the Provincial Health Officer issued an update addressed to all regulated health professionals in BC: <http://www.cnpbc.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/PHO-Letter-Re-Non-Essential-Services-Health-Profession-March-23-2020.pdf>. Health professionals were asked to limit delivery of in-person services in community settings and this message remains current, despite the recent discussion of lifting some of these measures at a future date. To be clear, the message from the Provincial Health Officer continues to be that “all nonessential and elective services involving direct physical contact with patients and clients should be reduced to minimal levels, subject to allowable exceptions, until further notice.” Regulated health professionals are encouraged to provide services via telehealth where possible.

Timelines of when non-urgent in-person care can resume remain unknown. This direction will be provided by the Provincial Health Officer at the appropriate time. In the meantime, stay the course, limit in-person services to patients/clients who require urgent services that cannot be delivered via telehealth, and continue to consult the College website for up to date information.