Provincial Primary Care COVID-19 Pediatric Pathway Discontinued

As a result of the changing landscape of COVID-19, the need for provincial primary care pathways has shifted. Vaccination rates in the community have reduced overall risk, public health measures have been lifted, rapid antigen tests are available, and severity of illness has declined with currently circulating strains.

Moving forward, managing suspected COVID-19 cases is expected to align with the management of other viral infections. As a result, COVID-19 primary care pathways now focus on treatment options in primary care.

Since most treatment options in primary care are available to the adult population, the decision was made—in collaboration with pediatric specialists—to discontinue the Pediatric Pathway as it is no longer relevant.

AHS will continue to monitor trends in strain severity and pediatric outpatient treatment options to assess the need to bring back the Pediatric Pathway.

The <u>Adult Pathway</u> continues to be available and has recently been modified (June 2022) in light of the above factors.

Providers are encouraged to continue promoting the importance of vaccination with their patients. You can find eligibility and booking information here: COVID-19 Immunization Booking | Alberta Health Services.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email phc@ahs.ca.

