



## BC COLLEGE OF NURSES & MIDWIVES

As of Sept. 1, 2020, the British Columbia College of Nursing Professionals (BCCNP) and the College of Midwives of British Columbia (CMBC) amalgamated to create a new regulatory body: **British Columbia College of Nurses & Midwives (BCCNM)**.

The document you are about to access reflects our most current information about this topic, but you'll notice the content refers to the previous regulatory college that published this document prior to Sept. 1, 2020.

We appreciate your patience while we work towards updating all of our documents to reflect our new name and brand.

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### Contact us

#### GENERAL INQUIRIES

604.742.6200  
1.866.880.7101 toll-free within  
Canada only  
info@bccnm.ca

#### REGISTRATION

register@bccnm.ca  
midwivesregister@bccnm.ca

#### REGULATORY POLICY & PROGRAMS

practice@bccnm.ca

#### COMPLAINTS

complaints@bccnm.ca  
Fax 604.899.0794





**March 9, 2020**

**Information to registrants on COVID-19 (coronavirus)**

Dear Midwives,

The CMBC Board is closely and carefully monitoring the current outbreak of COVID-19 and implications for midwifery practice in BC as the situation evolves. CMBC is committed to communicating updates to you in a timely fashion. We present the following information, immediately relevant to your day-to-day practice, for your careful review and consideration:

- The most important resource for BC health practitioners is the [BC Centre for Disease Control \(BCCDC\) website](#), which offers guidance to health professionals on COVID-19 that is updated on an ongoing basis. The [Public Health Agency of Canada website](#) also has detailed information on the outbreak, including the [interim national case definition for coronavirus disease](#).
- Both the BCCDC and Public Health Agency of Canada websites provide guidance on infection control. It's also important to also follow the infection control and screening protocols set out by the hospital and health authority in which you work.
- The BCCDC website also advises that anyone concerned that they may have been exposed to the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19, or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, should contact their family physician, nurse practitioner, local public health office or call 811.
- If a patient/client is concerned about potential exposure or is experiencing symptoms, ask them if they have taken the above steps. If not, encourage them to make the call immediately and follow medical advice.
- If they refuse, contact your regional health authority – listed on the [BCCDC Contact Us page](#) under “For health care providers” – for advice on next steps. Please note that under the BC [Public Health Act](#), health professionals need to ensure that public health officials are aware of any patient/client who may have contracted COVID-19. Although you may collect nasopharyngeal and throat swabs with appropriate personal protective equipment, CMBC suggests that you advise your clients to initiate testing and follow up with medical practitioners who can follow through with treatment and monitoring.
- BCCDC advises that the overall risk to Canadians from COVID-19 is low, and the best protection is to take the same precautions as you would during cold and flu season: wash your hands often with soap and water; cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing; avoid others who are unwell; and stay home when you are sick.

We will continue to send updates as indicated. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Regards,

Louise Aerts  
Registrar & Executive Director