

# COVID-19 PROTOCOL – PROVIDING FIRST AID – Update

**Your health and safety is our priority.**

## **Notice to all Metro Vancouver Designated First Aid Attendants**

The following protocol provides updated guidance regarding the provision of First Aid in Metro Vancouver workplaces during the COVID-19 Pandemic. This protocol supersedes the one issued on March 18, 2020.

COVID-19 is most commonly transmitted from an infected person through:

- Larger liquid droplets generated when a person coughs or sneezes;
- Touching something with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.

**Minimize unnecessary exposure to the patient - verbally assess them from a distance of 2 metres, if possible.**

### **Initial Patient Assessment Pre-Screening – ask the following questions:**

- ① **Have you travelled outside of Canada within the last fourteen (14) days?**
  - **Where did you travel? For how long?**
- ① **Do you have COVID-19 symptoms? Cough, sneezing, difficulty breathing, sore throat, fever?**

If the patient has COVID-19 symptoms, advise the Supervisor to send the patient home after treatment and complete an IRIS report, and instruct the patient to call 8-1-1 for more information.

### **Treatment Protocol – for all first aid treatment, including for asymptomatic patients:**

If the patient is able to self-treat under your direction, please ask them to do so and provide them the supplies they need. Please maintain 2 metres physical distance throughout. If this is not possible, then:

- 1. Put on your gloves, your respirator or surgical mask, and splash goggles;**
- 2. If possible, give the patient a disposable mask to wear while you provide first aid;**
- 3. Continue with patient assessment and treatment as per normal protocols;**
- 4. If the patient is unresponsive:**
  - **call 9-1-1 immediately and report their travel history if known**
  - **if CPR is required, use an AED (if available) or perform compression-only CPR**
- 5. Document all assessments as normally reported in the First Aid Record/Log.**

If the individual has symptoms of COVID-19 and unable (too ill) to travel home on their own, the first aid attendant will isolate the individual (in the first aid room or another quiet room away from others) and call for medical aid/ambulance to attend (9-1-1 or non-emergency number depending on severity).

**Remember:** Ensure proper donning and doffing of PPE, hand hygiene, and decontamination of first aid equipment and area prior to leaving scene. Also, disinfect the first aid room following any treatment – focus on hard surfaces and medical equipment. Check stock in room/kit and ensure you have adequate first aid supplies.