



Nishnawbe Aski Nation

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NAN Critical Preparedness Readiness and Response Actions for COVID-19 Transmission Scenarios



NAN CRITICAL PREPAREDNESS READINESS AND RESPONSE ACTIONS FOR COVID-19 TRANSMISSION SCENARIOS

Version: April 15, 2020

It has been demonstrated that COVID-19 transmission from one person to another can be slowed or even stopped. Early actions can save lives and provide more time to:

- ready emergency response systems
- increase capacity to detect and care for patients
- ensure that the space, supplies, and necessary personnel are in place to respond.

Every community should prioritize all necessary measures to slow the further spread of COVID-19 and to avoid having their health systems become overwhelmed as a result of needing to care for patients who are seriously ill with COVID-19.

NAN Critical Preparedness Readiness and Response Actions for COVID-19 Transmission Scenarios (NAN Critical Preparedness Readiness and Response Actions) aims to:

- Slow and stop transmission, prevent outbreaks, and delay spread
- Provide optimized care for all patients, especially the seriously ill
- Minimize the impact of the epidemic on health systems, social services, and economic activity.

All communities should increase their level of preparedness, alertness and response to identify, manage, and care for cases of COVID-19 if they are detected. Communities should prepare to respond to different public health scenarios, recognizing that there is no one-size-fits-all approach to managing cases and outbreaks of COVID-19. Each community should assess its risk and rapidly implement the necessary measures at the appropriate scale to reduce both COVID-19 transmission and economic, public health, and social impacts.

Communities should adjust and tailor their approach to the local context. Be prepared to respond to all transmission scenarios, following the framework laid out in the *NAN Critical Preparedness Readiness and Response Actions*. Prioritization and focus of resources for each technical area will depend on which transmission scenario your community is managing.

The attached table (Table 1) is meant to be a living document and should be updated by the community as responsible partners and resources are identified and the on-the-ground situation develops.



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We are working closely with both the federal and provincial governments to identify roles and responsibilities of each. As these conversations progress, we will continue to provide updates so that there is a comprehensive and coordinated approach outlined that takes into consideration both community and regional considerations.



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TABLE 1: NAN CRITICAL PREPAREDNESS READINESS AND RESPONSE ACTIONS FOR COVID-19 TRANSMISSION SCENARIOS

	No Cases	Sporadic Cases	Clusters of Cases	Community Transmission
Transmission Scenario	No reported cases.	One or more cases from travels or locally acquired.	Entire households infected. Linked to local transmission.	Inability to trace case origin through chains of transmission.
Primary Goal	Prevent virus from entering the community.	Stop further transmission and prevent spread.	Stop further transmission and prevent spread.	Slow transmission, reduce case numbers, end community outbreak.
Priority Areas of Work				
Community Response	<p>Develop/update pandemic and business continuity plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish partnerships early and complete risk assessment. - Include considerations for funeral and bereavement practices (see <i>Care for Deceased Persons</i> below). <p>Limit nonessential travel to and from community.</p> <p>Ensure adequate supplies of food and water in community.</p> <p>Implementation of non-essential community travel ban.</p>	<p>Activate pandemic plan.</p> <p>Implement public health measures, consider curfews.</p> <p>Declaration of emergency at the community level.</p> <p>Identify cross-trained staff to backfill essential roles.</p>	<p>Scale up emergency response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - strict enforcement of public health measures; - implement curfews; - ban social gatherings of 5 or more. <p>Maintain essential worker staffing pool.</p>	<p>Scale up emergency response measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - strict enforcement of public health measures; - <i>enforce</i> curfews; - <i>enforce</i> ban on social gatherings of 5 or more.
Public Health Guidelines	Hand hygiene, cough/sneeze etiquette, physical distancing.	Hand hygiene, cough/sneeze etiquette, physical distancing.	Hand hygiene, cough/sneeze etiquette, physical distancing.	Hand hygiene, cough/sneeze etiquette, physical distancing.



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	No Cases	Sporadic Cases	Clusters of Cases	Community Transmission
Communication	Educate and actively communicate with the public using approved Public Health messaging. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Consider how information is shared with the community and by whom. – Communication with certain groups, such as Elders, should be given special consideration. 	Educate and actively communicate with the public using approved Public Health messaging.	Educate and actively communicate with the public using approved Public Health messaging.	Educate and actively communicate with the public using approved Public Health messaging.
Case Identification, Contact Tracing, and Surveillance	Conduct active case finding and surveillance.	Enhance active case finding, contact tracing, and surveillance.	Intensify active case finding, contact tracing, and surveillance.	Continue active case finding and surveillance; contact tracing may no longer be possible/applicable.
Testing	Test all individuals with typical COVID-19 symptoms. Consider testing Elders and vulnerable patients/people with atypical symptoms.	Test all individuals with typical COVID-19 symptoms. Consider community testing for contacts of confirmed cases.	Test all individuals with typical COVID-19 symptoms. Community testing for individuals in contact with cases and clusters.	If testing capacity insufficient prioritize testing for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – People at risk of developing severe disease; – Symptomatic health workers; – The first symptomatic individuals in a closed setting (e.g. overcrowded houses).
Infection Prevention and Control	Train nursing and community health staff on COVID-19-specific infection prevention. Order additional PPE. Ensure appropriate supply of PPE.	Train nursing and community health staff on COVID-19-specific infection prevention. Ensure appropriate supply of PPE maintained.	Train nursing and community health staff on COVID-19-specific infection prevention. Ensure appropriate supply of PPE maintained.	Train nursing and community health staff on COVID-19-specific infection prevention. Ensure appropriate supply of PPE maintained.



	No Cases	Sporadic Cases	Clusters of Cases	Community Transmission
Health Infrastructure	<p>All patients can be treated at nursing station.</p> <p>Prepare nursing stations for isolation, patient flow, enhanced cleaning, etc.</p> <p>Identify and prepare additional locations for COVID-19 care within existing infrastructure, including places for overflow and self-isolation.</p>	<p>Nursing station near capacity.</p> <p>Patients with COVID-19 may require medivac to regional center.</p> <p>Additional medivac supports required.</p> <p>Continue preparation and/or complete additional locations for COVID-19 care.</p>	<p>Nursing station at capacity.</p> <p>Additional locations for COVID-19 care in use.</p> <p>Operational supports are a necessity.</p> <p>Additional medivac supports required.</p>	<p>Nursing station and community infrastructure for COVID-19 care approaching capacity.</p> <p>Additional operational support/relief will be required.</p> <p>Additional cases sent to regional centers with surge capacity.</p>
Health Care Capacity	<p>Receive initial supply of oxygen therapy equipment.</p> <p>Train nurses on long-term oxygen therapy.</p> <p>Develop surge plan, including considerations for medivac capacity.</p> <p>Identify community health workers who could support the clinical response to COVID-19 and begin training.</p> <p>Inventory critical supplies every week.</p>	<p>Request additional health staff support.</p> <p>Receive additional oxygen therapy equipment.</p> <p>Implement surge plan.</p> <p>Community health workers are trained and can begin supporting COVID-19 response.</p> <p>Inventory critical supplies every day. Reorder and restock as needed.</p>	<p>Additional health staff arrive in community.</p> <p>Scale up surge plan.</p> <p>Identify and set up palliative care sites.</p> <p>Inventory critical supplies every day. Reorder and restock as needed.</p>	<p>Regional health centres provide surge capacity.</p> <p>Inventory critical supplies every day. Reorder and restock as needed.</p>



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COVID-19 Assessment and Care	<p>Set up screening and triage at all health care access points.</p> <p>Prepare to treat COVID-19+ patients.</p> <p>Set up COVID-19 hotline and referral system.</p> <p>Develop list of community members at highest risk of complications from COVID-19 to inform future evacuation planning.</p>	<p>Screen and triage at all health care access points.</p> <p>Care for suspected and confirmed patients according to clinical protocols.</p> <p>Set up isolation facilities.</p>	<p>Screen and triage at all health care access points.</p> <p>Care for suspected and confirmed patients according to clinical protocols.</p> <p>Evacuate people exposed to COVID-19 who are at high risk of complications.</p>	<p>Screen and triage at all health care access points.</p> <p>Care for suspected and confirmed patients according to clinical protocols.</p> <p>Prepare family and community for grief and bereavement care.</p>
Care for Deceased Persons	<p>Ensure procedures and supplies in place for safe handling of the deceased, including additional PPE.</p> <p>Develop community guidelines for funeral and bereavement practices (including deaths unrelated to COVID).</p> <p>Develop plan for repatriating those deceased outside of community.</p>	<p>Follow procedures for safe handling of the deceased</p> <p>Ensure appropriate supply of PPE.</p> <p>Develop surge plan.</p> <p>Implement repatriation plan.</p>	<p>Follow procedures for safe handling of the deceased</p> <p>Ensure appropriate supply of PPE.</p> <p>Implement surge plan.</p>	<p>Follow procedures for safe handling of the deceased</p> <p>Ensure appropriate supply of PPE.</p> <p>Scale up surge plan.</p>



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