Limpkins

I have attached below an email from AHS that came out this afternoon. It outlines further changes in the response to the COVID outbreaks at FMC. You can read the details; the short story is that we need to know if any of you were recently on FMC Unit 81, regardless of PPE use and regardless of how long you were on the unit.

**IF YOU WERE ON UNIT 81 AT ANY TIME BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 12 AND NOW, PLEASE EMAIL SIBYL (stai@ucalgary.ca) ASAP TO ADVISE WHEN YOU WERE ON THE UNIT.**

If this affects you, while you do not have to self isolate and you don’t have to be tested, you will not be allowed to be in any AHS facility until 14 days have passed from the time that you were last on unit 81.

You can get tested (even if asymptomatic) if you were on watch or outbreak units from September 1 onwards at Room C607 on the 6th Floor of the Main Building in the former lab space in the West/Clinical Wing

You should watch for the extended symptoms of COVID (noted in the self assessment tool for healthcare workers [https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/HWAssessLanding.aspx](https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/HWAssessLanding.aspx)).

I know that for any of you who are affected, you may be anxious and may have questions. I am on inpatient service at the present time so I am not on email regularly during the day. If you have questions about how this may affect your training, please contact the Associate Dean, Dr. Naugler (ctnaugle@ucalgary.ca). I do want you to know that we will work with any affected student to try to find a way to make up any missed time to ensure that you complete your program, as scheduled.

If you have further questions about COVID, please contact Workplace Health and Safety:

Andres Nino  
Workplace Health & Safety Advisor  
Calgary Zone  
Alberta Health Services  
Office: 587-774-7462  
Andres.Nino@albertahealthservices.ca

Take care; this is going to be a challenging time, but we will get through this.

KB

Kevin Busche MD BSc FRCPC  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Clinical Neurosciences

Assistant Dean  
Undergraduate Medical Education  
Cumming School of Medicine  
University of Calgary
On behalf of Dr. Peter Jamieson, FMC Facility Medical Director.

FMC Outbreak Update for Physicians: Thursday September 24th

Reminders

Physicians with symptoms, or those with contact with a known COVID case without the use of appropriate PPE, should contact WHS at 1-855-450-3619.

***NEW AND IMPORTANT*** Anticipated Single-Site Work Order from Public Health

We anticipate that in the next 24 hours we will receive a Medical Officer of Health Single-Site Worker Order under the Public Health Act related to Unit 81. The effect of this order is that physicians and staff who have worked on Unit 81 in the last 14 days will thereafter be allowed to work only on Units 81 until 14 days have passed without any new cases developing, and the outbreak is declared over. Alternatively, if physicians self-isolate for 14 days, they can then return to work at the end of the isolation period. However, if they return to a unit covered by a single-site restriction order, their restriction will begin anew.

The Single-Site order is a separate and distinct process from the usual Workplace Health and Safety exclusion process for exposed individuals. While the WHS exclusion process applies to physicians who have close contact with a known case, the Single-Site order recognizes that the mode and extent of ongoing transmission on Unit 81 is not yet certain, so this order applies to anyone who worked on Unit 81 in the last 14 days, regardless of whether they saw a COVID patient or what PPE was used.

If you have worked on Unit 81 in the 14 days prior to the Order being made (anticipated to be September 26, 2020), you will be subject to the Order and can only work on Units 81 unless an exemption is declared. Exemptions are at the level of the individual physician and are approved by the Medical Officer of Health on the recommendation of the Zone Clinical Department, Zone Medical Director, and Zone Emergency Operations Centre. More details are available from your Section Chief or Department Head.

Common questions related to this process:

1. What is the definition of “worked on Unit 81”. What if I was on the unit and didn’t even see a patient?

For the purposes of this order, we anticipate that the definition of having worked on Unit 81 is to have seen a patient, or spent any amount of time in consultation or conversation at the desk or in another area of the unit.
2. I worked on Unit 81 in the last 14 days, but most of my work is elsewhere and is essential for important patient care (clinics, surgeries and procedures, other consultations). What should I do?

   An exemption to the Order may be granted as described above. The decision to grant an exemption will primarily consider the availability of other physicians to provide short term coverage.

3. I worked on Unit 81 in the last 14 days, and I also see patients in congregate living settings (such as LTC, Supported Living, etc). Can I still do these activities?

   A separate provincial Chief Medical Officer of Health order restricts physicians who have worked in a facility with an outbreak (including FMC) from seeing patients in congregate living facilities.

4. I worked on the cardiac services floors (Cath Lab, ECHO Lab, CVICU, etc) but didn’t go to Unit 81. Am I still subject to the order?

   No. The order is specific to Unit 81, and recognizes the uncertainty related to mode and extent of COVID transmission in that specific setting.

5. I am a Resident or Fellow. Does this order apply to me?

   Yes. Please contact your Residency Program Director for more information.