


Yukon Corrections: Adult Custody Policy Manual

Section:	B Security, Safety, and Control	Effective Date:	January 1, 2012
Number:	B 1 Emergency Contingency Policy		
Item:	B 1.12 Epidemics and Outbreaks		
Approved by Director, Corrections:		Revised:	December 2, 2020

STATEMENT OF POLICY

This policy describes the procedure to be followed in the case of disease that is or that appears to be spreading faster than expected among the population of the correctional centre.

AUTHORITIES

Corrections Act, 2009 ss. 2 (a), 2 (g), 14, 15

Corrections Regulation: ss. 1, 12

Public Health Agency of Canada (determines criteria for outbreaks)

Yukon Communicable Disease Control

Yukon Chief Medical Officer of Health

DEFINITIONS


Epidemic: a disease that spreads at a rate far in excess of the expected rate.

Influenza-like-illness outbreak: two or more cases of influenza-like illness within a seven-day period, including at least one laboratory-confirmed case.

PROVISIONS

1. A staff member who has reasonable grounds to believe that a larger than expected number of inmates and/or police prisoners are ill and exhibit the same or similar symptoms such as those associated with an influenza-like illness will inform the Officer in Charge.
2. The Officer in Charge will consult with a health care professional, who will advise the Yukon Communicable Disease Control, Public Health office of the situation.
3. The Yukon Communicable Disease Control office will determine if there is an outbreak and advise accordingly.
4. The health care professional will bring to the attention of the Person in Charge the advice and recommendations of the Yukon Communicable Disease Control about:
 - 4.1. the need to respond to the apparent spread of disease;
 - 4.2. housing options;
 - 4.3. contact and handling precautions;

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- 4.4. risk to inmates, police prisoners, staff, contractors, service providers, volunteers, and visitors.
5. Based on the advice and recommendations of the Yukon Communicable Disease Control office and until risks of disease-spread to others are clear, the Person in Charge may:
 - 5.1. suspend visiting;
 - 5.2. suspend gatherings in the correctional centre, including programs and events;
 - 5.3. restrict contractors, service providers and volunteers from access to affected areas;
 - 5.4. isolate inmates and/or police prisoners to the degree possible and practical;
 - 5.5. limit staff contact with inmates and/or police prisoners known to be infected, suspected of possible infection or at risk of possible infection.
6. In assessing and taking action under paragraph 5, the Person in Charge must give consideration to, and comply with, the principle of least restrictive measures.
7. The Person in Charge will ensure that all precautions remain in place until the Yukon Communicable Disease Control office advises that they are no longer required.
8. All epidemics and outbreaks will be reported in accordance with Policy B 1.1 Emergencies Notification and Approval Table and Policy B 1.1.1 Notification of the Director, Corrections.
9. The Director, Corrections will contact the Department of Justice's Policy and Communications Unit about any epidemics and provide updates on a regular basis.

RELATED POLICIES & DIRECTIVES

- B 1.1.1 Notification of the Director, Corrections
- B 1.1 Emergencies Notification and Approval Table
- C 3.10 Inmate Hygiene
- C 3.15 Communicable and Infectious Diseases

Yukon Communicable Disease Control: www.hss.gov.yk.ca/programs/health/ycdc/

HISTORY