



## E- Alert January 4th 2022

Dear Member Dentist and Dental Assistant,

With the increase in community spread as a result of the omicron variant, we want to keep members updated on the most current guidance from Shared Health related to the management of staff during this time.

There are 3 specific documents we want to bring your attention to. Please take the time to read and share with your colleagues in the dental office.

**1- Manitoba Public Health has updated COVID-19 Isolation Requirements ( <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-isolation-period-changes.pdf> )**

- **Fully vaccinated individuals** who have tested positive for COVID-19, are now required to self-isolate for a full **five (5) days** following symptom onset OR following their positive test result (if asymptomatic).
- **On day six (6)**, following symptom onset OR following positive test result (for asymptomatic), the self-isolation requirement will end. This is a change from the previous 10-day isolation requirement, and aligns with recent guidance from public health bodies and changes implemented in other jurisdictions.
- **Please note the following important changes are retroactive for health-care workers who developed symptoms or tested positive for COVID-19 on or after December 21, 2021.**

**2- Self-isolation requirements and return to work for health-care workers who have tested positive for COVID-19 FAQ <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-self-isolation-and-return-to-work-faq.pdf>**

- **The questions and answers provides guidance to employers to deal with this.**

**3- Shared Health has recently update their screening tool for healthcare workers: <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-staff-screening-tool.pdf>**

- **Staff are required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms and exposure prior to reporting for work.**

We are again reminding members about the need for social distancing in all common areas in dental offices.

Furthermore, the **MDA Pathways Document** still remains in effect for all private dental offices in Manitoba: <https://files.constantcontact.com/eea33206301/d1924994-a332-484c-aa81-f3b4b2bf51f1.pdf?rdr=true>

Thank you for your continued efforts in keeping all staff and patients safe.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at my confidential email: [president@manitobadentist.ca](mailto:president@manitobadentist.ca)

Dr. Christopher J. Cottick  
President and Board Chair