

Press Release

For immediate release

Update on the situation in Laval *Information about the Centre d'hébergement Sainte-Dorothée*

Laval, April 7, 2020 – The Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux (CISSS) de Laval would like to inform the public on the current situation at the Centre d'hébergement Sainte-Dorothée.

On Friday, April 3, 2020, the CISSS de Laval made the decision to test all residents at the Centre d'hébergement Sainte-Dorothée in order to obtain the precise status on the spread of COVID-19 at this facility. A total of 174 residents were tested. The results from the screening exercise indicate that an additional 69 residents are infected with COVID-19.

This pandemic is a tragedy for so many families faced with hard times. The situation is also difficult for staff members. We understand their concerns and we are deploying all necessary resources to protect this facility as well as the other establishments of the Laval healthcare network.

In the next few hours, the CISSS de Laval will proceed to the preventive testing of all employees of the Sainte-Dorothée facility. This exceptional measures is being taken to obtain a complete picture of the situation, and to limit community transmission that could result from asymptomatic employees. The decision reflects the best practices recommended by public health authorities.

In addition to the existing follow-up measures and to reassure family members of residents, the CISSS de Laval is setting up a special team in charge of communicating with them. Family members will therefore be able to obtain answers to their questions and receive the support they need.

Exceptional measures for an unprecedented situation

Since the start of this pandemic, which affects all people, but vulnerable seniors more severely, many measures and actions have been taken at the Centre d'hébergement Sainte-Dorothée. Here is a summary:

- Clinical staff from other facilities were transferred to the Centre d'hébergement Sainte-Dorothée to support their colleagues and provide care and services to residents. These staff members will remain at Ste-Dorothée and will not be transferred back to other facilities.
- Managers from other departments came to lend a hand and helped to coordinate the concerted efforts of staff.
- Two members of the infection prevention and control team are on site to ensure compliance with the protection and prevention measures.
- It is now mandatory to wear personal protective equipment for all contact with residents to protect staff and users. Employees must change their gown and gloves if they have contact with a person infected with COVID-19.
- Employees must now wear a procedural mask and safety glasses at all times.
- Starting today, everyone is required to wear a procedural mask in all facilities for any contact. This includes contact between colleagues, if less than 2 metres away.

Moreover, the CISSS de Laval is monitoring the situation on protective equipment. There is enough for each employee who is required to wear such protection. At the moment, there are two guaranteed deliveries per day.

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Visits to CHSLD are prohibited

In accordance with government directives, all visits to these facilities have been prohibited. Residents are required to self-isolate and avoid non-essential outings.

The CISSS de Laval would like to thank the public for its valuable cooperation. Please note that for reasons of privacy, no information about the identity of those affected will be released.

For more information on COVID-19, consult the [special section on COVID-19 on the Québec government Website \(Québec.ca\)](#).

For more information, follow the CISSS de Laval on Twitter [@cissslaval](#)

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About the CISSS de Laval

The CISSS de Laval is fully dedicated to learning, innovating and excelling in order to offer residents of Laval and surrounding areas a full range of integrated, quality health and social services accessible to all. Its human capital includes over 10,000 employees and doctors working in 32 facilities, including the Hôpital de la Cité-de-la-Santé, the Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital, the Centre de services ambulatoires de Laval, six CLSCs, five residential centres, the Centre de protection de l'enfance et de la jeunesse de Laval, the Centre de réadaptation en dépendance de Laval and the Centre de réadaptation en déficience intellectuelle et troubles envahissants du développement de Laval. The CISSS de Laval is a research and teaching facility affiliated to Université de Montréal and McGill University. For more information about the CISSS de Laval and the services offered in its facilities, go to www.lavalensante.com.

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