



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
CENTRE *for* EXCELLENCE  
*in* HIV/AIDS

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**RE: BC-CfE AND COVID-19: HIV TREATMENT AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS UPDATE**

Dear Prescribers working with the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS (BC-CfE):

Currently, the BC-CfE's medication dispensing services for its HIV Treatment and Prevention programs are **continuing as usual**. We appreciate that the situation may evolve, so we ask that you look for updates at [www.cfenet.ubc.ca](http://www.cfenet.ubc.ca).

At this time health care providers can help facilitate continuity of care by practicing the following:

**Medication supply**

- Prescribers should fax prescriptions to the pharmacy in advance whenever possible.
- If your BC-CfE client is stable on their medication, and supply is available, you may prescribe a larger drug supply (e.g. 4 months) during this time.
- If a client is in isolation and cannot arrange for a delegate, please help them contact St. Paul's Hospital Pharmacy (at 604-682-2344 ext. 63151) or their designated pharmacy for an alternative method to obtain their medication.
- Please refrain from introducing **elective** regimen changes.
- For additional information not covered in this document, please contact the St. Paul's Hospital Ambulatory Pharmacy at 1-800-547-3622.

**HIV Treatment Monitoring**

- We recommend providers use their clinical judgment in decreasing frequency of routine HIV plasma viral load testing in stable patients over the next several months. This will allow the virology laboratories to focus their resources on COVID-19 testing.

Sincerely,

Julio S.G. Montaner, OC, OBC, MD, DSc (Hon), FRCPC, FCCP, FACP, FRSC  
Executive Director and Physician-in-Chief  
BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS

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