



Programme national d'assistance ventilatoire à domicile
Centre universitaire de santé McGill
National Program for Home Ventilatory Assistance
McGill University Health Centre

Dédié à votre santé et qualité de vie... Committed to your health and quality of life...

Montreal, July 2, 2020

In light of the present situation, the **National Program for Home Ventilatory Assistance of the McGill University Health Center (NPHVA-MUHC)** is faced with the necessity to modify certain activities for an undetermined period of time. Note that this notice does NOT apply to the NPHVA – Quebec.

Management of hospitalized patients

Please note that the delay for admission to the NPHVA for a hospitalized patient is estimated to be between 10 and 15 business days. Countdown of business days starts once all the required documents have been received.

Management of hospitalized patients with a tracheal cannula

Plan an additional and minimal delay of 2 weeks for the caregivers' training to ensure a safe return home for your patient.

Management of new patients at home, with or without a device

The delay for admission of new patients who are at home is presently undetermined and may be greater than 6 months. We suggest that you follow regularly your patients who are at risk for acute decompensation. We are doing our best to prioritize hypercapnic patients without any device available, but delays are nevertheless to be expected.

Ventilation initiation for patients with neuromuscular disease

Ventilation initiation for a patient who has never received positive airway pressure treatment (CPAP, Auto-PAP or Bi-Level) must be done in a hospital setting. We strongly encourage you to proceed with the initiation (titration) within your organization before sending us the request. The reduction in available time slots at the MUHC, compounded by staff shortage, limit our ability to perform daytime clinical trials. A delay of several weeks is to be expected even for high priority cases.

Home visits

MAINTAINED SERVICES

- Opening new patients with follow-up post 1 month, including overnight oximetry and download;
- overnight oximetry following a request from a physician, due to a specific issue;
- Addition of new techniques (cough assist);



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- Visits to attend to any issue that prevents the patient from using his/her ventilation:
 - o Face wound caused by the interface;
 - o Equipment failure;
 - o Inadequate settings;
 - o Uncontrolled high leaks.
- Virtual appointments via Reacts or Zoom or Telephone follow-ups .

SUSPENDED SERVICES

- Regular home follow-up visits if none of the above criteria are present;
- Regular annual download and overnight oximetry;
- Overnight transcutaneous capnometry (TcPCO₂).

If you would like to obtain a download for a patient for an upcoming appointment, please contact us.

On-call service

Services covered by the on-call service remain the same, namely, urgent services outside regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, excluding holidays).

We continue to evaluate the situation regularly in order to resume all of our services as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards,

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