

Public Health Advisory

COVID-19 variant XBB.1.5 established in Nunavut

May 5, 2023
Nunavut-wide

The Department of Health is advising Nunavummiut that the COVID-19 variant XBB.1.5 is now established in the territory as further cases have been detected. The XBB1.5 variant is highly transmissible, and we remind Nunavummiut to take the appropriate steps to protect yourself, your loved ones and your community from COVID-19 infection.

The best way to protect yourself and those around you is to get vaccinated. All Nunavummiut over six months of age are encouraged to stay up-to-date on their COVID-19 vaccinations.

You can also do your part to stop the spread and protect yourself against COVID-19, and other respiratory illnesses by following these measures:

- Stay home when you feel sick.
- Cough or sneeze into your sleeve.
- Wash your hands often.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Throw used tissues in the trash right away.
- Keep distance from others when out and about.
- Don't smoke indoors or around others, especially babies.

Masks continue to be mandatory in all health care facilities. Appointments for COVID-19 and flu vaccines are still available and can be made at community health centres or public health units.

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