



April 9, 2020

Assistance for First Nations Patients from First Nations Communities

To all CCMB care providers,

Is your patient from a First Nations community? For cancer patients required to come to Winnipeg, Brandon, or attend a Community Cancer Program site for care **AND** for patients who may be eligible for a telephone or TeleHealth appointment, it is important to consider how to best plan these appointments with patients and their community care providers.

As the situation across Manitoba continues to change, there are public health measures that are being taken to protect Manitobans. For people who live in First Nations communities, patients leaving and returning to their community may have increased screening for symptoms of COVID-19 and potential required isolation when returning home.

It is very important at this time during frequent and ongoing changes to keep open and clear communication with your patient, their community health care teams (Nurses in Charge or Primary Care Providers in nursing stations), and key people required for planning travel OUT OF and INTO their First Nations community (Medical Transportation Coordinators and Non-Insured Health Benefits Transportation Referral Unit – Reminder that NIHB and Medical Travel Coordinators are not medical professionals and should not receive specific medical information other than appointment details without knowledge and consent of client).

When planning care in-person or over telephone/Telehealth, remember to connect to:

- Your patient
- Community Care Facilities ([see list on SharePoint](#))
- Non-Insured Health Benefits Transportation Referral Unit (for people travelling out of their community)
 - o **NIHB - Medical transportation**
Toll free: 1-877-983-0911
Fax: 204-984-7834

If your patient is unable to access appropriate accommodation, if they have additional travel restrictions or other concerns and usual coverage options are not able to support your patient, AND this will impact your recommended care plan, CCMB may be able to offer additional supports. If this is your patient, please connect to:

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