

Date: May 4, 2021 File: 195-20 Cliff: 1062580

To: PCD Managers, Dispatch, Dr. A MacPherson, Matthew Erickson

Re: COVID Bypass Protocol - 03 May 2021

This direction supersedes all previous COVID bypass direction for Vancouver Island. This revision has been reviewed by all acute care leads and has received full endorsement.

All other preferred destination guidelines remain in place:

- trauma
- stroke
- STEMI
- pediatrics
- maternity > 20 weeks

VIHA and BCEHS agree that the revised COVID Bypass protocol is:

- All COVID positive patients will be transported by BCEHS to the closest acute care site [bypassing Chemainus, Ladysmith & Oceanside]
- For patients in Victoria area, if they are oxygen dependent but stable and able to maintain SpO2>90%, patients should go to RJH.
- In Victoria, and all Vancouver Island, if patients are unstable/unable to be oxygenated [unable to keep SpO2 >90% on maximum oxygenation, OR appear to be presenting with impending respiratory arrest despite maximum BCEHS intervention] they should be transported to the closest hospital [Bypassing Chemainus, Oceanside and Ladysmith]

Sincerely,

Lance Stephenson

Director, Patient Care Delivery, Island Districts

BC Emergency Health Services