

PHAC Infection Prevention and Control Visit: Trip Report

Institution	Établissement Archambault (Minimum)	Date of visit	May 11, 2020
Location	Sainte-Anne-des Plaines, Québec	Time for visit	1.5 hours
# Residents	Approximately 120	# COVID-19 (+)	0
IPC Observers	Denise Gravel Tropper Kahina Abdesselam	Institution Staff	Martin Turcotte Jean Philippe Gagnon

Observations

STRENGTHS

Administrative control

- Visitation from the public was suspended until further notice and signs of COVID-19 were plastered all over the entrance
- There was an appropriate screening protocol established for all employees entering the institution.
 - As you first enter the building, there were arrows signs on the floor leading you to an open washroom to wash your hands. Signage of proper hand washing were posted on the wall before entering the washroom as well as signage of putting and removing PPE
 - Registering was required and masks enclosed in individual bags were provided for each employee
 - Social distancing signs were placed on the floor
 - Temperature check with a no-touch thermometer was not yet implemented as they just received their batch today (would be implementing it shortly at all entrances)
- Instructions of putting and removing PPE were found in every room
- Employees self-assessed their health prior to coming into work every day and if they do not feel well, they report it to the regional office and do not come into work
- Employees were trained on proper hand hygiene, donning and doffing and were also fit-tested for N95 respirators (new staff will soon be fit-tested)
- A log in and out sheet was found in the donning and doffing station, which also monitored for PPE breakage
- Proper hand hygiene steps as well as instructions of donning and doffing were provided in the donning/doffing station
- Teleconference calls take place daily Monday to Friday to exchange best practices among all healthcare workers
- The buildings are cleaned twice a day (morning and afternoon).

Engineering control

- A physical barrier was placed at the front entrance, where the security guard would register employees entering in and a physical barrier was placed near Zone 1.
- ABHRs were placed at the exit of the building – this exit would allow you to access the rest of the institution.
- Designated hand washing stations were available in every room.
- Three zones were established in 3 different rooms (each has a washroom): zone 1 (any new transfer/admission of inmates), zone 2 (symptomatic/unconfirmed), zone 3 (symptomatic/confirmed). However, the zones were empty as there were no new admission/transfer, symptomatic/unconfirmed or symptomatic/confirmed cases.
- There was an ABHR at every entrance and exit of rooms
- PPE of all sizes were easily accessible
- N95 respirators were also available and used only when appropriate (e.g. AGMP)
- A no-touch waste receptacle for used PPE were placed in Zone areas and in donning and doffing station
- Used N95 respirators were kept in a separate box to be decontaminated later for possible use in times of shortages
- Stairwells were closed off to ensure that the movement in the building was controlled and monitored
- The donning and doffing station was set up as one unit prior to entering Zone 2 and 3

Specific COVID-19 Recommendation

- Social distancing signs on the floor were implemented (a minimum of 2-meter)
- Staff are screened at the entrance for any symptoms of COVID-19
- Masks were kept on for the full duration of the shift, unless a staff was dealing with any cases in the Zones for a long period of time then the staff would be required to change their PPE every two hours or in between zones.
- Non-essential activities between inmates are suspended
- Inmates were trained on proper hand hygiene and putting and removing a mask from videos as well as in person training from an experienced nurse
- Washrooms are limited to employees (only 3 available)
- Inmate showers are cleaned directly after each use

Outbreak management

- Inmate would be cohorted according to their appropriate Zone. Zone 3, containing all symptomatic/confirmed cases, would be monitored 24/7 as the room cannot be locked due to safety regulation (i.e. a fire).
- Contact tracing is conducted if an employee does not feel well and does not come to work
- Dedicated teams are being developed per zone
- Non-essential inmate transfers and new inmate admission are restricted. If accepted, individual is placed in Zone 1 for a 14-day quarantine period

GAPS

- Temperatures should be checked for all employees (with no-touch thermometer) – this step was being implemented this week as they received their batch
- Donning and Doffing were in the same station
- Proper hand hygiene instructions could be posted in all designated hand washing stations
- Signage on the floor of the appropriate flow movement individuals should follow from in and out of Zones were missing
- Water fountains should be closed
- Restrict the number of communal washrooms available to inmates

Recommendations

1) Separate areas for Donning and Doffing

Donning and donning are strongly recommended to be separate. Donning was recommended to take place prior to Zone 1 designated area.

2) Provided more signage in proper hand hygiene practices

Placement: signage should be placed near all washrooms as well as designated hand-washing sinks.

3) Flow movement in and out of Zones

Signage of the flow movement of in and out zones are strongly recommended to provide a better control of the environment and reduce chances of further transmission if a case were to occur.

4) Water fountains should be closed

To further reduce the chance of transmission of the virus within the institution if a case were to occur;

5) Restrict the number of communal washrooms available to inmates

To control the possible source of contamination and prevent spread of virus if a case were to occur in the institution.

Additional Notes

The recommendations were well received and were planned to be incorporated as soon as possible. Follow-up is not required unless requested by the institution

Completed by:	Kahina Abdesselam	Date:	May 14, 2020
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PHAC Infection Prevention and Control Visit: Trip Report

Institution	Établissement Archambault (Medium)	Date of visit	May 11, 2020
Location	Sainte-Anne-des Plaines, Québec	Time for visit	1.5 hours
# Residents	Approximately 280	# COVID-19 (+)	2
IPC Observers	Denise Gravel Tropper Kahina Abdesselam	Institution Staff	Katherine Rioux Martin Turcotte

Observations

STRENGTHS

Administrative control

- Visitation from the public was suspended until further notice and signs of COVID-19 were plastered all over the entrance
- There was an appropriate screening protocol established for all employees entering the institution.
 - As you first enter the building, there were arrows signs on the floor leading you to an open washroom to wash your hands. Signage of proper hand washing were posted on the wall before entering the washroom as well as signage of putting and removing PPE
 - Registering was required and masks enclosed in individual bags were provided for each employee
 - Questions were asked to each individual entering the building
 - Are you experiencing any of the symptoms or signs of COVID-19 (i.e. fever, headaches, chills, coughing)
 - Have you travelled outside of Canada within the last 14 days
 - Have you been in contact with an individual infected with COVID-19
 - Social distancing signs were placed on the floor
 - Temperature check with a no-touch thermometer was used to screen each individual
- Instructions of putting and removing PPE were found in every room
- Employees self-assessed their health prior to coming into work every day and if they do not feel well, they report it to the regional office and do not come into work
- Employees were trained on proper hand hygiene, donning and doffing and were also fit-tested for N95 respirators (new staff will soon be fit-tested)
- A log in and out sheet was found in the donning and doffing station, which also monitored for PPE breakage
- Proper hand hygiene steps as well as instructions of donning and doffing were provided in the donning/doffing station
- Teleconference calls take place daily Monday to Friday to exchange best practices among all healthcare workers
- The buildings are cleaned twice a day (morning and afternoon). Occupational Health team reviewed the disinfectant procedure (and it was approved).

Engineering control

- A physical barrier was placed at the front entrance, where the security guard would register employees entering in the institution, as well as in every zone.
- ABHRs were placed at the entrance and exit of every room.
- All units in the institution remain separate and no cross over occurs.
- Three zones were established in 3 different units: zone 1 (any new transfer/admission of inmates and required to stay there for 14 days), zone 2 (symptomatic/unconfirmed), zone 3 (symptomatic/confirmed).
- All cells for inmates were separate and each had it's own toilet
- Designated hand washing stations were available in every zone.
- There was an ABHR at every entrance and exit of rooms
- PPE of all sizes were easily accessible
- N95 respirators were also available and used only when appropriate (e.g. AGMP)
- A no-touch waste receptacle for used PPE were placed in Zone areas and in donning and doffing station
- Used N95 respirators were kept in a separate box to be decontaminated later for possible use in times of shortages
- Stairwells were closed off to ensure that the movement in the building was controlled and monitored
- The donning and doffing station were setup separately in Zone 2 and in Zone 3 the donning and doffing stations are planning to be set up based on our recommendation. Log in and out and monitoring of PPE breakage are set up at each donning station.

Specific COVID-19 Recommendation

- Social distancing signs on the floor were implemented (a minimum of 2-meter)
- Staff are screened at the entrance for any symptoms of COVID-19
- Masks were kept on for the full duration of the shift, unless a staff was dealing with any cases in the Zones for a long period of time then the staff would be required to change their PPE every two hours or in between zones.

- Food is delivered to each cell in all zones
- Staff are asked to change their clothes worn during their regular hours before going home (i.e. work clothes vs home clothes).

Zone 1:

- On the day of the visit, there were only 3-4 inmates in this zone (requiring confirmation).
- All new transfers are required to be placed in this Zone for 14 days.
- Inmates in this Zone are trained on good practices of hand hygiene and proper use of masks (both via a video and in-person training from an experience nurse)
- Inmates in this zone are allowed to go out once a day for 30 min with masks on and spatial distancing of 2-meter between inmates
- Any personal equipment of the inmates must be cleaned by the inmates and this process is supervised

Zone 2:

- On the day of the visit, there were 5 inmates who showed symptoms but were confirmed to be negative COVID-19. They will stay in the zone for the remaining duration of the 14 days.
- Each inmate remains in their cell with their own toilet
- Medical services take place within the Zone (with a dedicated health worker assigned to this zone)
- Non-essential activities between inmates are suspended and all common areas (i.e. gym, kitchen, etc.) are closed.
- Inmates are taken out of their cell to shower (and shower is disinfected after each inmate)
- Donning takes place outside and Doffing takes place inside Zone

Zone 3:

- This zone was empty as the were no confirmed COVID-19 case
- This zone can fit 8 inmates
- Two cells units were reserved for donning and doffing
- Inmates will not be allowed out of their cell.
- A dedicated team is being set up for the medical needs of inmates in the zones. Inmates will be treated inside their cell unit.

Mental Hospital:

- There are 86 patients
- Every inmate is to stay in their cell
- All communal areas are closed for inmates
- Medication and food are brought to their cell

Outbreak management

- All confirmed cases would be in Zone 3 and would not be moved
- Contact tracing and testing will be conducted by the appropriate group (i.e. local public unit, field epi, microbiologists) to assess all individuals (i.e. inmate, staff) who were exposed to the positive case
- Dedicated teams are being developed per zone
- All essential activities will take place (i.e. eating and treatment) within their cell and increased frequency of environmental cleaning will occur

GAPS

- Signage to control flow movement of staff on the ground is recommended in all Zones
- Clean mops were found in Donning Station of Zone 2 (the institution assured us that was only temporarily and that nothing will be in the station except for PPE, a designated sink for hand washing, ABHR and log in and out, PPE burnout sheet)
- Water fountains should be closed

Recommendations

1) Screening Question

As COVID-19 is in the community it is no longer necessary to ask whether an individual has travelled outside of the country within the last 14 days. The emphasis on screening should be on symptoms, in particular head aches.

2) No outside activities in Zones

Inmates in either Zone 1, 2 or 3 are not recommended to leave their Zone. Zone 3 are not recommended to leave their cell. Any essential activity (i.e. treatment) must take place in their individual cell.

3) Zones to remain separate

As of now, the institution's Zone 3 can only fit 8 inmates. There was a discussion on whether Zone 2 and 3 can be in the same unit. Our recommendation is that it should not. If Zone 3 is mixed in with Zone 2 then both Zones are considered Zone 3. The Institution can follow-up with us and further discuss strategies to take if the situation ever occurred that there is a possibility of having more COVID-19 confirmed cases then individual cells in Zone 3.

4) Separate areas for Donning and Doffing

Donning and donning are strongly recommended to be separate, which was the case for Zone 1 and 2. As Zone 3 was being prepared, two cell units, side by side, were designated to be the donning and doffing station, separately. We recommend that donning and doffing stations be set up in opposite cells and the cell that is close to either of those stations closed and not be used.

5) Flow movement in and out of Zones

Signage of the flow movement of in and out all zones are strongly recommended to provide a better control of the environment and reduce chances of further transmission.

6) Water fountains should be closed

To further reduce the chance of transmission of the virus within the institution if a case were to occur.

Additional Notes

The recommendations were well received and were planned to be incorporated as soon as possible. Follow-up is not required unless requested by the institution.

Completed By:	Kahina Abdesselam	Date:	May 14, 2020
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