

**To:** Health centres Innulitsivik and Tullatavik

**From:** Surveillance and control of respiratory viruses team - Infection prevention and control  
Infectious diseases  
Nunavik Department of Public Health

**Date:** November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

**Subject:** Withdrawal of the tool ***Indications for testing and clinical decision-making algorithms*** for COVID-19 (***IDAC***)

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## Context

The tool ***Indications for testing and clinical decision-making algorithms*** for COVID-19 (***IDAC***) was initially created in the specific context of the COVID-19 pandemic and the necessity of adapting the provincial recommendations to the Nunavik region's particularities.

With the evolution of the situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2022 the Nunavik Public Health adjusted its recommendations with those of the rest of the province.

During the past year, as requested by the health centres, we kept the ***IDAC*** and updated it in accordance with changes in the provincial recommendations. We also included the directives set forth by the health centres relative to user travel which therefore no longer fell under the Nunavik Public Health Department authority after the program of entry management into Nunavik ended.

We would like to remind that the particularities of air travel for Nunavik users can require further management of infection prevention and control, which is under the health centres' authority.

## Given the following elements:

- There are no longer any differences between the COVID-19 recommendations in Nunavik and those for the rest of the province;
- The recommendations and directives are now issued by the *MSSS*, the *INSPQ*, the *INESSS* and the health centres themselves;
- Publishing and updating these recommendations create confusion among clinicians because they attribute their origin to the Nunavik Public Health department.

## The Nunavik Public Health Department has therefore decided to withdraw the ***IDAC***.

However, the Surveillance and control of respiratory viruses team will concentrate its efforts on regular updates to the NRBHSS toolkit for respiratory infections and COVID-19 (online). The toolkit will include links to the recommendations and directives in effect concerning COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses. Thus, through said toolkit, we will continue to ensure support for the health centres, particularly regarding indications for testing.

Finally, the Nunavik Public Health Department remains available for any questions or requests for support which may arise in particular situations requiring expert advice.

To access the toolkit for COVID-19 and respiratory infections, visit the NRBHSS Web site:

<https://nrhss.ca/fr/maladies-infectieuses/bo%C3%A0-ouils-covid-19-et-infections-respiratoires>.

Thank you for your understanding.