



Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Office régional de la santé de Winnipeg
Caring for Health À l'écoute de notre santé

MEMO

Date: May 29, 2020

To: Women and Children's Health Programs

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cc:

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Subject: Postpartum Public Health Services during COVID-19 Pandemic

During the COVID-19 pandemic Public Health Nurses (PHNs) continue to receive postpartum referrals (with client consent), and are contacting postpartum families discharged from the hospital within 48 hours of discharge for assessment and triage. PHNs are assessing the needs of the postpartum families (mom, baby, or both), and ensure that families that may be considered more "high risk" (additional risk for the well-being of the mother, baby, or both – considering physical and / or psychosocial needs) receive in-person home visiting services.

Routine well baby checks and follow ups are also being offered by pediatricians and primary care. We are **not** recommending that postpartum families purchase their own scales for weighing their babies. Should a family choose not to accept either a public health home visit or opt out of the routine pediatric / primary care well baby follow up for their newborn, then they may consider other options for weighing their baby and can contact their PHN, pediatrician, or primary care provider to determine a plan.

We would ask that you review this information with your team members and advise that we are continuing to offer PHN services. It would be very helpful to have pertinent information related to risk included on the Referral forms as this assists us in prioritizing contact and ensuring that families are receiving services appropriately.