

**ORDER OF THE MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER: NASOPHARYNGEAL SWABS AND OTHER  
SCREENING ACTIVITIES  
DATED DECEMBER 17th, 2020**

(Pursuant to Sections 1, 13, 27, and 28, 54(1) *Public Health Act*, S.B.C. 2008)

**TO:** Registered Nurses, Registered Psychiatric Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses

**TO:** Vancouver Coastal Health Authority Professional Practice staff, and all classes of health care service providers subject to Orders of the Provincial Health Officer regarding Screening Activities

**AND**

**FACILITY:** Any community outreach centres, staff/physician assessment centres, or other testing facilities as designated by Vancouver Coastal Health Authority Leadership

The Public Health Act and Regulations are at:

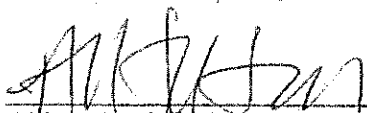
<http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/content/complete/statreg/08028/?xsl=/templates/browse.xsl>

**BE ADVISED:**

1. This Order repeals and replaces my Order of March 18, 2020 directed to Registered Nurses, Registered Psychiatric Nurses, and Licensed Practical Nurses operating at any community outreach centres, staff/physician assessment centres, or other testing facilities designated by Vancouver Coastal Health Authority Leadership ("my March 18 2020 Order").
2. Facilities and staff originally subject to my March 18 2020 Order, and all additional practitioners exempted by applicable Orders of the Provincial Health Officer ("the PHO") and permitted to perform nasopharyngeal swabs, are expected to follow any Orders, guidelines, and/or recommendations issued by the PHO, the BC Centre for Disease Control, and Vancouver Coastal Health Authority Public Health Leadership .
3. Pursuant to all relevant Orders of the PHO, all assessments of staff competency to perform nasopharyngeal swabs and other screening activities will be conducted by Vancouver Coastal Health Professional Practice staff, in accordance with the requirements of the PHO Orders and any other guidance or requirements issued by Vancouver Coastal Health Authority Public Health Leadership.

DATED THIS: 17th of December, 2020.

SIGNED:

  
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Althea Hayden, MD, MPH, FRCPC  
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DELIVERED: by posting on the VCH website.

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