MEDICAL IMAGING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

You can help our health care system respond to COVID-19

Right now our system is prioritizing its resources to ensure care providers can respond to the pandemic. This involves ensuring chest CTs and X-rays are available when needed most.

Chest CTs and X-rays do not help to diagnose COVID-19 for patients with a recent onset of symptoms but our care providers are receiving requests to conduct them. These tests are only necessary to evaluate patients who have tested positive for COVID-19 and show signs of complications,[1] and there are guidelines that help care providers know if a test is necessary.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The most important things you can do to take care of your health are:

Stay home and stay away from others

Wash your hands regularly
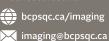
Avoid touching your face

STAY INFORMED

- If you think you have COVID-19, check the **BC Centre for Disease Control's website** for a list of common symptoms and what you should do next.

- You can also use the **BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool** available on the BCCDC website, to determine if you need further assessment or testing. If you still have questions after completing the self-assessment, contact your care provider or call 8-1-1.

- Things are changing quickly as we learn more about COVID-19 and how to treat the virus. We will update this post if best practice recommendations change.

[1] Canadian Association of Radiologists. Canadian Society of Thoracic Radiology and Canadian Association of Radiologists' statement on COVID-19 [Internet public statement]. Ottawa Canada; March 16, 2020. Available from: https://bit.ly/3aiQj8c