

November 18, 2022

BY EMAIL

**Re: New Approach to Preventing and Controlling Respiratory Infections**

**To the parents of educational childcare services in Montreal**

Currently, a large part of the population is protected against severe forms of COVID-19 (complications, hospitalizations, deaths), thanks to vaccination and previous infections.

COVID-19 is still circulating in the population and several other respiratory viruses are also present such as respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), adenovirus and influenza. As of November 3, 2022, the new approach aims to strengthen prevention and control measures for all respiratory infectious diseases. They call for individual responsibility, in the interest of all.

**What to do when your child has one or more symptoms of respiratory infection?**

1. Consult the exclusion criteria to find out if your child can attend daycare (see next page)  
If symptoms require exclusion:
  - Keeping your child at home until the return conditions are met (see next page).
2. Within 10 days of the onset of symptoms (whether or not there has been exclusion) your symptomatic child must:
  - Respect distancing (as much as possible).
  - Avoid vulnerable people (e.g. elderly, chronically ill or immunosuppressed).
  - Avoid non-essential social events.
3. Notify the daycare of your child's symptoms

The COVID-19 rapid test is still available for anyone who has symptoms of a respiratory infection and wants to check if it is a COVID-19 infection.

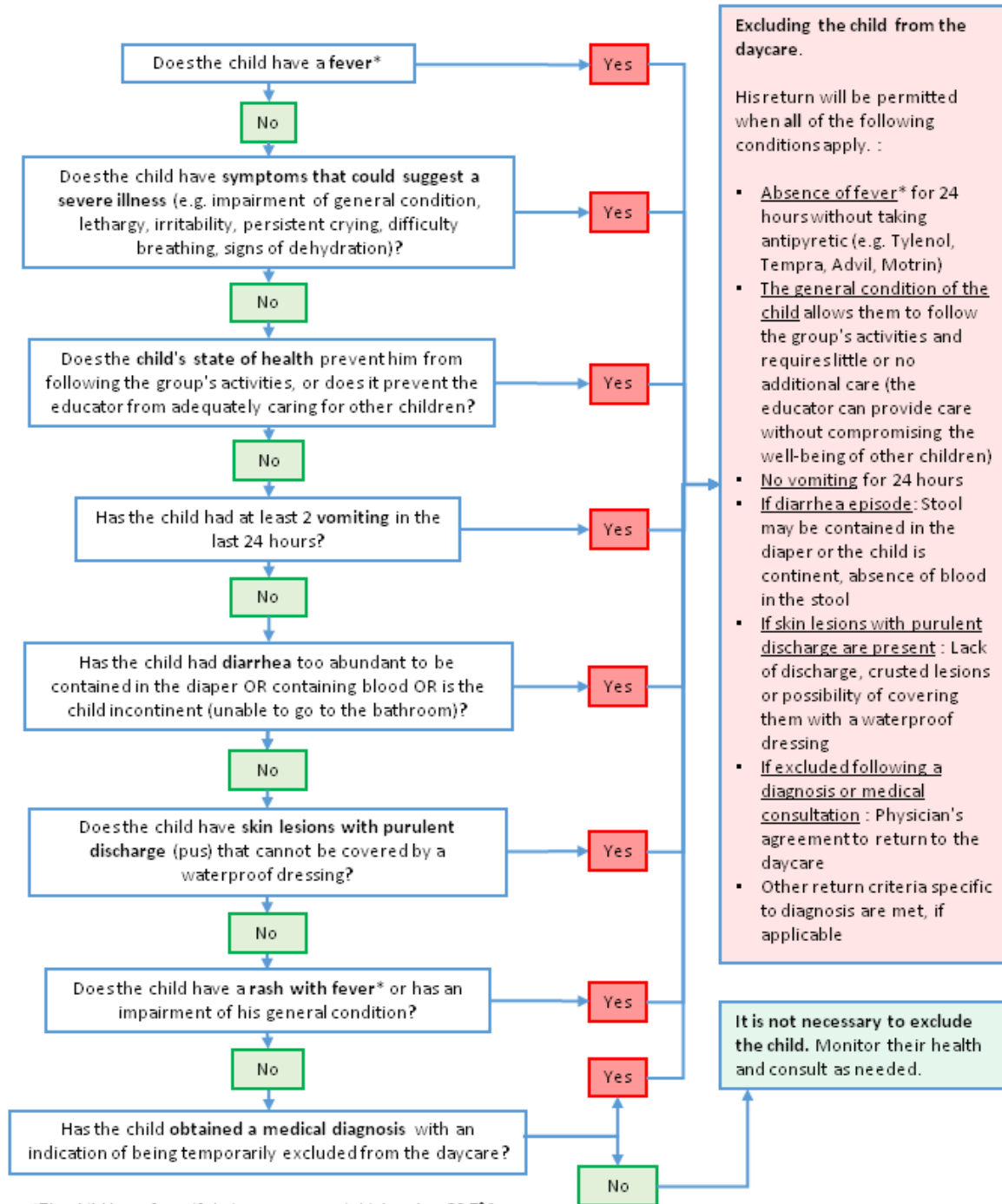
**Infection prevention and control: simple actions that make a difference**

⇒ Vaccination ⇒ Hand hygiene ⇒ Respiratory etiquette ⇒ Cleaning and disinfection ⇒ Ventilation

***Without the right gestures, it is transmitted at full speed!***

*Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) team youth 0-25 years*

## Criteria for excluding a child from a daycare or a school



**Excluding the child from the daycare.**

His return will be permitted when all of the following conditions apply. :

- Absence of fever\* for 24 hours without taking antipyretic (e.g. Tylenol, Tempra, Advil, Motrin)
- The general condition of the child allows them to follow the group's activities and requires little or no additional care (the educator can provide care without compromising the well-being of other children)
- No vomiting for 24 hours
- If diarrhea episode: Stool may be contained in the diaper or the child is continent, absence of blood in the stool
- If skin lesions with purulent discharge are present: Lack of discharge, crusted lesions or possibility of covering them with a waterproof dressing
- If excluded following a diagnosis or medical consultation: Physician's agreement to return to the daycare
- Other return criteria specific to diagnosis are met, if applicable

**It is not necessary to exclude the child. Monitor their health and consult as needed.**

\*The child has a fever if their temperature is higher than 38.5°C (rectum or ear), 38.0°C (mouth) or 37.5°C (armpit)