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Dear Employers,

During this COVID-19 pandemic, we ask for your help in keeping our community safe. One way you can do this is by following [Alberta Health precautions](#). If your staff member meets AHS criteria regarding COVID-19 exposure, you should advise them to self-isolate at home and call 811. If they are experiencing respiratory distress or are severely unwell, they should call 911 immediately.

Instructing your otherwise healthy, or mildly ill yet concerned staff member to attend a physician's office to obtain a doctor's note or testing to 'eliminate the possibility' of COVID-19, unnecessarily exposes our most vulnerable community members to the potential spread of the virus. Testing will not be performed unless a person meets the screening criteria.

If someone believes they are at risk, they should call 811 and await advice from a clinician. Alternatively, they can **CALL** their primary care provider's office for further direction.

Ridgeview Medical Centre will be screening all calls to determine if patients meet the most current screening criteria set forth by Alberta Health Services. Patients who meet the criteria will be given options to obtain more information (eg. a phone conversation with their family doctor, or continuing to try and contact 811).

Those who are not sure if they meet the criteria will be advised that the most responsible decision is to self-isolate until they are able to get further direction from 811. Again, if anyone is experiencing respiratory distress or is severely unwell, they should call 911 immediately.

Ridgeview Medical Centre **will not** be providing doctor's notes for patients who meet the criteria to self-isolate; nor will we be seeing otherwise healthy patients to provide doctor's notes to 'clear' them to return to work.

Sincerely,

Ridgeview Medical Centre