

Death of a CISSS des Laurentides employee from COVID-19

Saint-Jérôme, April 28, 2020 – The Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux (CISSS) des Laurentides confirms the sad death from COVID-19 of one of its employees, a patient attendant (PAB) working at the Lucien-G. Rolland CHSLD long-term care facility in Saint-Jérôme.

Senior Management wishes first and foremost to convey its sincere condolences to the family and loved ones, and also to the employees and the residents of the Lucien-G. Rolland CHSLD.

The deceased had been working as a patient attendant for the CISSS des Laurentides since June 2010. The Director of Public Health has launched an investigation to determine whether this employee was infected in her workplace.

“I share all our personnel’s deep sadness at the loss of a devoted and much appreciated colleague. This employee deserves to be remembered. We must remember her, not only today but once the pandemic is over, and take comfort in all those we will have cared for with humanity, and all those whose lives we will have saved,” said Rosemonde Landry, President and Executive Director of the CISSS de Laurentides.

Protection and prevention protocols

Stringent protection and prevention protocols are in force in our long-term care facilities to control infection and thus avoid possible contamination.

Although these measures are sufficient, the risk of transmission cannot be entirely eliminated given the number of human interactions involved. The virus is present in the community and some individuals may be asymptomatic carriers.

However, it is important to stress that all CISSS des Laurentides personnel are provided with all necessary protective equipment to ensure the safety of employees and doctors.

In case of an outbreak in a residential facility

Note that when an outbreak of COVID-19 is identified in one of the various residential facilities, an investigation is launched immediately. Furthermore, the following protection measures are also in force:

- The affected residents are isolated;
- Quarantine of one or several units is implemented, as needed;
- Personnel movement is restricted;
- Testing of residents and employees proceeds according to the investigation’s findings;
- Appropriate use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) by personnel;
- Surgical masks are worn at all times by all healthcare workers when within two meters of a resident or a colleague;
- Implementation of INSPQ (Institut national de santé publique du Québec) recommendations.

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