

March 2, 2024

Rocmaura Nursing Home

Attention Staff, Residents and Family,

As you may be aware there is currently a significant concern globally regarding group A streptococcal (GAS) infections. This infection is caused by bacteria that are often found in the nose, throat or skin. Some people carry these bacteria in their throat or on their skin and have no symptoms at all. Most GAS infections are relatively mild illnesses such as a “Strep throat” or a skin infection such as “cellulitis”, that require treatment with an antibiotic. On rare occasions this bacteria can grow in places like the blood, muscle or lungs causing a much more severe illness requiring hospitalization. These infections are considered invasive group A streptococcal (IGAS) infections.

Rocmaura nursing home has recently identified two severe cases of invasive group A streptococcal infection among residents. Residents who may have been in contact with these cases will be offered antibiotics as a precaution measure. This measure is out of an abundance of caution and should a resident refuse antibiotic treatment, that is acceptable. We appreciate your support as we work to protect all residents at Rocmaura nursing home from potential infectious diseases.

For more information, please see the IGAS fact sheet on the Government of New Brunswick website via the link below.

<http://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Departments/h-s/pdf/en/CDC/FactSheets/StreptococcusGroupABetahemolytic.pdf>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Public Health Communicable Disease line at **506- 658-5188**.

Sincerely,



Dr. Kimberley Barker, MD, CCFP, MPH, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health, Zone 2