

## McKenna, Neil

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**From:** Kim, Sabrina  
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**From:** Stickney, Matt  
**Subject:** Additional PPE flags

I think the fact that we're just approaching 1 million tests may raise questions about how many test kits we've been procuring, and the speed under which they're being approved by HC. Dr. Tam previously said we want to do 60k tests per day, and this week we've done between 20k – 30k. So I think that Q is likely to come up.

Also, Dr. Nemer's comments on QC testing will probs come up in a similar context to the Q above but Cam already briefed on that one!

Also, ON's testing numbers continue to be quite low. Premier Ford blamed the system and said he will "continue to push them".

Also, Mia Rabson continues to follow up with GAC about the China Embassy tweet. She is frustrated due to the lack of answer so he may be asked on it. She could say "I asked this Q (x) amount of days ago and haven't gotten an answer so what is the deal" type of thing.

### **Pharmacists receiving short shipments amid shortage**

Ongoing drug shortages are leaving pharmacies across the country to adjust to short shipments on the fly, according to the Canadian Pharmacists Association.

The association first warned of the possibility of shortages in early March, when supply chains for ingredients and finished medications were disrupted by COVID-19 in China.

### **Canada leans heavily on China for personal protective equipment as pandemic-induced shortage continues (CBC)**

More than two months into the coronavirus pandemic, federal and provincial governments are using extraordinary measures to supply health-care workers with personal protective equipment, including letting them use expired masks. [...]

In March, Ottawa passed an interim order that allows masks, face shields and gowns to be imported and sold in Canada even if they do not meet Health Canada's pre-COVID-19 standards.

Health Canada hasn't responded to questions from CBC News about the ways in which it has relaxed its rules, but the order's description says that the products must still be "manufactured according to comparable standards."

The United States appears to be taking a similar approach. The U.S. Food and Drug administration says that "for the duration of the pandemic," it will allow the importation of KN95 masks, which are respirators manufactured according to Chinese standards.

[...]

The president of the Canadian Medical Association, Dr. Sandy Buchman, says such exceptional measures make some doctors anxious.

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