

# LOOKING AFTER YOUR

A chronic condition is a health issue that is long-term or lifelong. If untreated, it can cause complications that can make you unwell and unable to cope with everyday life. If you have a chronic condition, then your risk of severe COVID-19 is higher, but you may just have it mildly. The goal of treating a chronic condition is to control it and to prevent complications.

#### REACH YOUR GOAL FOR YOUR CHRONIC CONDITION

## **Understand your chronic condition**

Ask your health worker for help if you have any questions

### Have a healthy lifestyle

Get active! Eat healthily

### Look after your mental health

Spend time with supportive friends or family. Find a creative or fun activity to do. Do a relaxing breathing exercise each day.

## Don't smoke or abuse alcohol or drugs

Ask for help to stop if you need it.

## Take your medication reliably

Adhere to your treatment to help control your condition, prevent complications and keep you well.

## Don't miss your appointments

Keep all your appointments at the clinic. Ask someone to collect your medication while you cannot leave home.

### Get help when you need it

talk to the health professional for advice about coping with a chronic condition. Chat to a relative or friend. Find out if you qualify for a disability grant if your chronic condition makes it difficult for you to work.

# You could be at risk of severe COVID-19 if

you are 55 years or older, you are any age and on treatment for any of the following:

- diabetes, hypertension or heart disease
- chronic lung disease (asthma, COPD, chronic bronchitis)
- Cancer
- TB
- HIV with poor adherence to ARVs.

**24HR NICD HOTLINE:** 0800 029 999 | **PROVINCIAL HOTLINE:** 033 846 6000

IT'S IN OUR HANDS









