

This checklist is designed to support your home to decide if you are adequately prepared to manage/support proper infection control practices as per Public Health Ontario. Public Health Ontario's personal protective equipment (PPE) recommendation for healthcare workers is **universal masking** at all times, and additionally donning appropriate PPE as per contact/droplet precautions (gown, eye protection, mask and gloves) for COVID-positive residents.

1. Do you have appropriate equipment and techniques to prevent/manage COVID-19?

- Sufficient Number of Masks? Alcohol-based hand sanitizer?
- Disinfectant wipes? Hospital-based disinfectant for environmental/equipment cleaning?
- Are your staff trained to work in outbreaks? Sufficient staffing resources?
- Are you screening residents and staff twice daily for symptoms and temperature?
- Are you isolating new residents to your home for the recommended 14 days?

2. Can you support sufficient physical distancing measures for residents?

- Have all visitors except essential (Ex. Family members of gravely ill) been restricted from entering the home?
- Have group activities been cancelled?
- Can you have meals staggered throughout the day?
- Can some residents eat meals in their room?
- Can staff help residents to connect with families through video calls?

3. Do you have COVID-19 Positive Residents?

- Have you contacted your local Public Health unit for presumptive cases?

*There are to be **NO** new admissions to any outbreak area without consultation with the local Public Health unit.*

- Have you posted signs to indicate: "No Visitors" and "Droplet/ Contact precautions" as appropriate?
- Does your home have enough PPE, Health Canada approved disinfectant, hand sanitizer?
- Can you cohort/ isolate COVID-positive residents?
- Can you cohort staff to work in the outbreak area? *Staff working in a cohorted area can keep the same gown/eye protection/ mask but must remove gloves, do hand hygiene, and don new gloves between residents. All PPE is removed on leaving the cohorted area. Units without ability to isolate COVID-19 positive should consider all residents as potentially COVID-19 positive.*
- Is there a designated area 2 metres (or 6.5 feet) away from residents for removing PPE?
- Does your home clean high contact surfaces with approved disinfectant twice daily?
Ex. Door handles, light switches, bathrooms, hand rails, and elevator buttons

4. Do staff need education for working in Outbreak Conditions?

- Are staff maintaining an appropriate 2 metre distance from each other while working? – **This is VERY important**
- Do staff know to handle infected linen, dishes, utensils, garbage to prevent transmission?
- Hand hygiene best practices?
- Donning and doffing PPE?
- Identifying Symptoms of COVID-19?

Resources and References

Resources:

- 1. Hand Hygiene Best Practices:** www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/bp-hand-hygiene.pdf?la=en
- 2. Donning and Doffing PPE:**
 - www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/rpap-recommended-ppe-steps.pdf?la=en
 - Donning and Doffing Video (with N95 Mask by Sunnybrook Hospital):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syh5UnC6G2k>
 - Doffing PPE by Public Health Ontario: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=crGIUX3_4DA
 - Donning PPE Poster (Public Services Health and Safety Association):
<https://wdgpublichealth.ca/sites/default/files/file-attachments/HCP/iifpsben0420-covid-19-donning-poster-and-checklist.pdf>
 - Doffing PPE Poster (Public Health and Safety Association):
<https://wdgpublichealth.ca/sites/default/files/file-attachments/HCP/iifpsaen0320-covid-19-doffing-poster-and-checklist.pdf>
- 3. Requesting PPE:** <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/dd43709056b245bba7272f2e5c07c6df>
- 4. Identifying Symptoms of COVID-19:**
https://rnao.ca/sites/rnao-ca/files/Possible_COVID-19_Symptoms_to_report_-_POSTER_-_April_14_2020.pdf
- 5. Public Health Ontario COVID-19 Resources:**
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/novel-coronavirus/public-resources>

References

- Murti, M., & Callery, S. (2020, April 15). Considerations for long-term care and retirement homes (LTC/RH). Retrieved from:
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/event-presentations/pho-webinar-covid-19-considerations-ltcrh-apr-15-2020.pdf?la=en>
- Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario), Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee. Best practices for environmental cleaning for prevention and control of infections in all health care settings. 3rd ed. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2018. Retrieved from:
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/bp-environmental-cleaning.pdf>

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