

Ministry of Long-Term Care

Office of the Deputy Minister

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December 11, 2020

Memorandum To: Long-Term Care Homes**From:** Richard Steele
Deputy Minister**Subject:** PPE Supply Program for Long-Term Care Homes - Update

This memo is further to the October 15, 2020 communication regarding the Ontario government's program to provide all long-term care homes with a one-time, up to eight-week supply of personal protective equipment (PPE). This program is part of the government's Long-Term Care Preparedness Plan to support COVID-19 infection prevention and control practices and enable homes to be prepared for outbreaks.

I am pleased to share that more than 80 per cent of long-term care homes have already accessed PPE supplies through this program, and since its launch, received over 15 million units of essential PPE supplies.

PPE requests continue to be fulfilled and if your home has not yet accessed supply under the up to eight-week supply program, you are encouraged to do so by following the steps described in Appendix A. Ensuring that all homes have necessary supply of PPE will allow the long-term care sector to further prevent and contain COVID-19.

I am also pleased to confirm the commitment for a one-time supply of eight weeks of N95 respirators (N95s) for all long-term care homes. Regardless of whether your home has requested and/or received the supply of N95s through this program before, you now have access to a full eight-week supply of N95s.

The models that are currently available include: 3M 8210, Halyard Fluidshield 46727 and 46827. These can be requested through the attached instructions (Appendix B). If your staff have not been fit tested to the models that are available through the provincial program, options to access fit testing supports are provided in Appendix C.

While the province will endeavor to fulfill orders as quickly as possible, shipments will be prioritized for homes in outbreak and those where there is high community transmission of COVID-19. Providers can expect delays in receiving shipments of large orders.

As a reminder, all long-term care homes, regardless of whether or not they access the up to eight-week supply program, can continue to submit emergency escalation requests for PPE. When PPE is in short supply at a home, the province will top up supplies in emergency situations and fulfil priority requests within 24 hours.

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Importantly, all long-term care homes are reminded to continue to practice conservation and appropriate use of N95s and other PPE (please [click here](#) for Recommendations from Ontario Health on the Use and Conservation of PPE). To ensure that the province has an accurate inventory of available PPE, long-term care homes are also reminded to report into the Ontario Critical Supplies and Equipment (CSE) Virtual Inventory as directed by the Minister's Order once per week, between Thursday and Monday.

Thank you for your continued commitment to long-term care residents and exceptional efforts to prevent and contain COVID-19.

Sincerely,



Richard Steele

c: Matthew Anderson, President and CEO, Ontario Health
Helen Angus, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Melanie Fraser, Associate Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Karen Hughes, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Government and Consumer Services
Heidi Francis, Associate Deputy Minister, Ministry of Government and Consumer Services
Dr. Thomas Stewart, Co-Chair, Recovery and Planning Table
Donna Duncan, CEO, Ontario Long Term Care Association
Lisa Levin, CEO, AdvantAge Ontario
Dan Kaniuk, Chair, Board of Directors, Ontario Long-Term Care Association
Jane Sinclair, Chair, Board of Directors, Advantage Ontario
Janet Hope, Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Policy Division
Sheila Bristo, Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Operations Division
Jacqueline Cureton, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility
Catherine Brown, President, Shared Services, Ontario Health
Olha Dobush, Executive Lead, LTC Stabilization
Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health

Attachments:

- Appendix A: Up to Eight-Week Supply Program Instructions
- Appendix B: N95 Supply Instructions
- Appendix C: How to Access N95 Fit Testing Support