

IMPORTANT UPDATES ON COVID-19

To: Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Nurses, and Midwives
Hospital Infection Control Departments and Emergency Departments

Updated documents for COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance, the Antiviral Treatment toolkit from Ontario Health, and Management of Cases and Contacts of COVID-19, are included in this alert.

1. **COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance** (April 11, 2022 Version 15.0) ([EN](#) / [FR](#))
 - Elaboration of criteria for molecular testing to support eligibility for COVID-19 treatment.
 - Inclusion of all symptomatic people aged 70 and older and all people who are immunocompromised in list of those eligible for molecular testing.
2. **Access to COVID-19 [antiviral treatment \(Paxlovid\)](#) and [patient handout](#) update from Ontario Health**
3. **Management of Cases and Contacts of COVID-19 in Ontario** (April 11, 2022 Version 14.0) ([EN](#))

Highlights of Changes:

- Updated requirements for individual case follow up and reporting of suspect/confirmed outbreaks (p.7)
- Guidance for outdoor exercise for COVID-19 cases/individuals with COVID-19 symptoms isolating (p.9)
- Clarification for outbreak management in home and community care settings and paramedic services (p.13)
- Information for risk of COVID-19 spread between people and animals (p.23)
- [COVID-19 Interim Guidance: Omicron Surge Management of Staffing in Highest Risk Settings](#)” has been incorporated into Management of Cases and Contacts of COVID-19. Options for returning staff to work can now be found in Appendix A of Management of Cases and Contacts of COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local Timiskaming Health Unit:

Monday to Friday
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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