

Ministry of Long-Term Care

Office of the Deputy Minister

400 University Ave. 6th Floor

Toronto ON M5G 1S5

Tel.: 416 325-6200

Ministère des Soins de longue durée

Bureau du sous-ministre

400, av. University, 6^e étage

Toronto ON M5G 1S5

Tél. : 416 325-6200



October 15, 2020

TO: Long-Term Care Home Licensees

RE: COVID-19: Long-term care preparedness plan – PPE Supply

We are writing in follow up to government announcements earlier this month regarding the **fall preparedness plan for the long-term care sector**.

As part of the fall preparedness planning, the Ontario government has announced that all long-term care homes will have access to an up to eight-week supply of personal protective equipment (PPE). This is a one-time commitment to provide all homes with needed PPE to support infection prevention and control practices, and to be prepared in the case of outbreaks. This supply is currently available for homes to order. As well, the province will continue to top up supplies of PPE in emergency situations, as per the current practice.

Attached you will find detailed guidance on how to place orders, as well as frequently asked questions.

In regard to N95s, please note that the Directive 5, which directs provision of N95 respirators to health care workers and regulated health professionals, has been amended as of October 8th ([linked here](#)). A questions and answers document is available to provide further detail ([linked here](#)). This communication sets out details of the currently available models and how long-term care homes may access the supply of N95s to meet reasonable requirements in the context of the updated Directive 5.

As a reminder, long-term care homes should continue maintaining their own supply chains and the Ontario Together [portal](#) includes a list of Ontario companies and business associations that are ready to supply PPE and can aid in this objective.

Finally, we continue to emphasize the need for responsible stewardship of PPE in alignment with Ontario Health guidance:

- Recommendations on the Use and Conservation of PPE Use([linked here](#))
- Optimizing the Supply of Personal Protective Equipment ([linked here](#)).

Thank you again for your exceptional efforts during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

(original signed by)

Richard Steele
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Long-Term Care

Matthew Anderson
President and CEO
Ontario Health

c:

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, Ontario Long Term Care Association
Lisa Levin, 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 Ministry, Long-Term Care Operations Division
Catherine Brown, President, Shared Services, Ontario Health
Olha Dobush, Executive Lead, LTC Stabilization
Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health

Attachments:

- Instructions and FAQ
- Product Overview for 3M 7500-Series Reusable Elastomeric Respirator
- Appendix: Fit Testing Services