

OHT PRIMARY CARE CHECKLIST -2023/2024 FALL & WINTER RESPIRATORY PREPAREDNESS

The Fall/Winter Respiratory Preparedness Primary Care Checklist provides OHT and their Primary Care OHT Clinical Leads and Primary Care OHT Committees with a simple checklist as you develop more fulsome OHT fall winter preparedness plans for 2023/2024. The Checklist is meant for primary care sites such as Family Health Teams, Nurse Practitioner Led Clinics, Community Health Centres, Family physicians, pharmacies, home care agencies/ Home & Community Support Services working in partnership with Local Public Health Units, Community Paramedics, Hospitals & Long-Term Care Homes.

CHECKLIST for PRIMARY CARE	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review primary care preparedness planning for 2023/2024 respiratory fall/ winter season relative to flu, RSV, COVID and pneumonia in consultation with local Public Health Unit and local pharmacies at the OHT Primary Care Coordinating Table (or alternative) . Discuss approaches to ongoing situational awareness and communications between providers throughout fall/ winter respiratory season especially related to primary care impacts.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discuss and confirm vaccination plans for flu, COVID, RSV, and pneumonia. Confirm pharmacy locations for vaccines , booking process and hours of operation including how these will be communicated to the public and primary care organizations and physician offices. Confirm vaccine delivery and patient/ staff vaccination availability in primary care offices .
<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify key Primary care human resource issues that might arise and ways to address this including significant primary care practitioner, clinical or support staff illness within primary care organizations.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assess inventory of resources to support staffing needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> PPE supply including masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer. <input type="checkbox"/> Review IPAC resources and local public health unit phone/ email <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure awareness of local pathways/access points for local COVID/ Flu/ RSV vaccine
<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify high-risk primary care clients (such as seniors or vulnerable patients) and ensure care plans are up to date. Discuss clinical strategies related to persons who do not have primary care practitioner such as persons who are/ at risk of homelessness and how care could be provided during fall/ winter.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discuss how stepped care can assist throughout seasonal flu/Covid/ RSV outbreaks.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reviewing current testing eligibility and any applicable MOH guidance documents. Ensure awareness of available access points for testing (i.e., pharmacies).
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discuss how therapeutics (Tamiflu, Paxlovid and Remdesivir) will be available to primary care practitioners.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Update Primary Care organization web site including after-hours availability and virtual care appointments .
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review and update staff and patient masking protocols for onsite visits at the primary care site. Review and update signage/web site information on masking as respiratory outbreaks in your community change.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discuss fall/ winter preparedness with local Long Term Care Homes if primary care physician or NP currently provide services or if additional Human resources might be requested by LTCH during outbreaks.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discuss with hospitals and OHT the need for general public communication strategy for when to go to ED and when to call primary care practitioner or Health 811.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review with OHT Primary Care Lead how to seek help if your office or primary care organization is overwhelmed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review Ontario Health Operational Direction: Fall/Winter Readiness and Response (October 03, 2023)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review Ontario Health Memo: Supports for the Fall/Winter Respiratory Illness Season (October 13, 2023)

Endorsed by Primary Care Advisory Council, OH West Region, September 25, 2023