

**OHT PRIMARY CARE CHECKLIST - 2024/2025 FALL & WINTER
RESPIRATORY PREPAREDNESS**

The Fall/Winter Respiratory Preparedness Primary Care Checklist provides OHTs, OHT Primary Care Clinical Leads, and OHT Primary Care Committees or Primary Care Networks with a simple checklist 2024/2025 fall/winter preparedness. The Checklist is meant for primary care clinicians and providers 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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review primary care preparedness and surge planning for 2024/2025 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 Committee or Primary Care Network.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss approaches to ongoing situational awareness and communications between providers throughout fall/ winter respiratory season especially related to primary care impacts. Ensure OHT Primary Care Clinical Lead are aware of primary care situational issues including when in surge periods.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss and confirm vaccination plans for flu, COVID, RSV, measles, and pneumonia. Confirm vaccine delivery and patient/staff vaccination availability in primary care offices.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement RSV prevention program.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key primary care human resource and inventory issues that might arise and ways to address these.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify high-risk primary care clients 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.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing current testing eligibility, therapeutics, and any applicable MOH guidance documents.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update primary care organization and clinician practice website and signage including hours of operation, after-hours availability, virtual care appointments, and masking protocols for onsite visits.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 including the OHW Regional Virtual Urgent Care Programs (LHSC- Children’s Hub, St. Joseph’s Hospital Hamilton- Adult Hub) or Health811.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If your office or primary care organization is overwhelmed, please reach out to your OHT Primary Care Lead.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of this checklist will assist OHTs and OHT Primary Care Committee (or Primary Care Network) with 24/25 fall/winter respiratory preparedness planning to create a strong primary care response and support patients and families working in partnership with hospitals (including Home First approach), cancer screening programs, long term care homes, local public health and community health partners.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For reference, Ontario Health Memo - Operational Direction: Priorities for Spring/Summer 2024 (April 22, 2024)

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