

June 1, 2020

**MEMORANDUM TO: Health System Organizations and Providers**

**SUBJECT: Update on COVID-19 Preparations and Actions**

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In follow-up to our last communication, we are pleased to share additional updates from the provincial Health Command Table on key actions that are being taken to address COVID-19:

**Aligning preparations and actions** to support implementation of the government's provincial reopening plan. These will focus on:

**Continuing to protect and support our vulnerable populations** as the province reopens:

- Work continues to stabilize **long-term care homes in critical need** through targeted supports, including management supports, where necessary.
- Updating guidance to identify the conditions under which restrictions on visitor policies in long-term care homes and movement into homes from other settings can be gradually and safely eased. The Ministry of Seniors Affairs is undertaking a similar review for retirement homes.

**Continuing efforts to expand testing for COVID-19** in alignment with the government's updated lab testing strategy:

- Rapid deployment of mobile testing sites to areas of the province where there is a higher risk of spread and additional testing capacity is needed based on current public health data and trends.

We continue to review key indicators, data and evidence to better understand and respond to the pandemic and are working to identify practical opportunities to share this information publicly.

We thank you for your continued work to support the implementation of our provincial efforts to respond to the pandemic and implement a phased recovery.

Sincerely,

*(original signed by)*

Helen Angus  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Health

Dr. David Williams  
Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Ministry of Health

Matthew Anderson  
President and CEO  
Ontario Health