

Important Information in light of the COVID-19 Global Pandemic

This letter is for all Residents in [.....] (and/or their substitute decision makers). We want to provide you with general information about the COVID-19 virus so that you can make informed decisions. The information in this letter is hard to share. Please let us know if you would like to speak further about it.

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a virus that causes illness similar to the flu. This virus is spreading across the world, including in Ontario. Most people who have COVID-19 will feel mild symptoms, like fever and cough. Some people have more severe symptoms, like difficulty breathing. Health care providers can treat symptoms of COVID-19, but there is no cure, and it can result in death for some people.

People with a chronic health conditions are at higher risk of more harmful effects of the virus, including the risk of death.

The province of Ontario and your long-term care home are working to protect you and other residents from the virus. We want you to know that despite these efforts ***there have been outbreaks and deaths in long-term care homes in Ontario.*** Currently in our home [.....].

What can you expect?

Each resident will continue to receive individual care, regardless of COVID-19.

You can expect your physician to propose a plan of treatment that responds to your specific needs. If an unplanned emergency issue arises (like a broken bone) emergency transfers to hospital can still be arranged.

Your physician might recommend a treatment plan that includes staying in the home, even if you become very ill, or are at end of life. This is because there might not be any treatment available in the hospital beyond what we will provide in the home.