REGIONAL COVID-19 PORTAL

June 19, 2020

WEEKLY UPDATE

PPE supply in the Ontario Health West Region during COVID-19



Weekly Call to Action

Continue practicing PPE conservation strategies to ensure we are as prepared as possible for a potential second wave of COVID-19.

N95 Shortage is Real

There are rumours circulating that suggest N95s are available elsewhere and we're just not getting them. This is not true. N95s remain in short supply globally. Be assured that work is being done to address this shortage, and strategies in development to ensure further shortages do not occur.

Positive Cases Declining

Ontario is continuing to see the daily number of positive cases remain in the ballpark of 200; significantly lower than numbers we were seeing just a few weeks ago. Additionally, the number of outbreaks in longterm care homes is declining, with no "significant" LTC outbreaks in the West Region at this time.

REGIONAL COVID-19 PORTAL

- Fastest way to order three days of urgent PPE supply
 - Regional stock updates for entire Ontario Health West region
 - Latest news and updates on PPE

HMMSCovid19.ca also features other resources and information including:

- Conservation Status
- HMMS Acute Stock Status
- Latest PPE News
- Regional Allocation Committee
 Information
- Distribution Model Description
- Swab Order Form
- How to Donate Supplies

OH West PPE Efforts Inform Ethics Guidance Document

The Ethics Network of the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada (CHAC) recently released a framework for setting priorities for scarce resources during COVID-19, which includes personal protective equipment (PPE).

The document is available to more than 120 Catholic health organizations across Canada and includes a PPE case study by Marlene Van Laethem, Clinical Ethicist at St. Joseph's Health Care in London. Marlene is also a member of the Ontario Health West COVID-19 Regional Allocation Committee and used this experience to inform her piece.

The case study focuses on the level of concern related to the PPE shortage and the need for supply chain, IPAC and occupational health professionals to come together with allied health professionals to make informed decisions around allocation for all community providers. The study concludes that there is a need for better education on PPE usage, including safe conservation strategies, across all health care sectors.

Learn more about CHAC at <u>www.chac.ca</u>.

The RAC has been lauded for our collaborative and effective work; I'm pleased to serve on this committee.

- Marlene VanLaethem



Good News

The allocation of Primary Care PPE Starter kits has been a resounding success. To date, the supply chain has filled and shipped more than 3,000 orders from primary care providers and/or settings across the West Region.

A big shout out to staff at the HMMS warehouse in London for quickly packing these kits and distributing them to assist in the re-opening of in-person primary care services.

Resources

Ontario Helps Local Business Test and Certify Medical-Grade PPE <u>https://news.ontario.ca/medg/en/2020/06/ontario-helps-local-business-test-and-certify-medical-grade-ppe.html</u>

COVID-19 Operational Requirements: Health Sector Restart v2 <u>https://ohwestcovid19.ca/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/2020/06/Operational-Requirements-for-Health-</u> <u>Sector-Restart-v2-2020-06-15.pdf</u>



Stay up-to-date with information and submit urgent requests for PPE at <u>HMMSCovid19.ca</u>.

