

September 10, 2020

New Swab Ordering Process for Long-Term Care Homes and Retirement Homes

As of **September 10**, Long-Term Care homes and retirement homes in the South West, Waterloo Wellington, North Simcoe (Grey Bruce Health Unit), and Central West (Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health Unit) areas will now order COVID-19 Swab Kits through the regional supply chain process managed by Healthcare Materials Management Services (HMMS) in Ontario Health West, as Public Health Ontario will no longer be accepting swab orders. **The process remains unchanged for all other health service providers (hospitals, assessment centres, public health units, etc.) in the West Region.**

The introduction of swab kits into the current PPE intake and distribution process will enable the province to leverage the existing regional supply chain network and streamline processes associated with requesting, triaging, warehousing and distributing PPE and swab kits across the province. The province will take a phased approach to ensure swab allocation is not disrupted. Public Health Ontario will continue to be involved in determining the types of swab kits to distribute, using their knowledge of any unique swab kit requirements.

Organizations that have been pre-approved by their local public health unit and are following ministry [guidance](#) and directives for testing will be the first ones eligible to use this new online ordering process.

If you want to order COVID-19 Swab Kits – and are a Long-Term Care home or retirement home in the South West, Waterloo Wellington, North Simcoe and Central West areas – please complete this order [form](#) as of September 10, at which time you will see a category for Long-Term Care Homes and retirement homes, including a space to enter your organization's name. Once submitted, supply chain staff will review and prepare an order meeting your anticipated needs and deliver your swabs within 72 hours.

If you have further questions, please email HMMSCOV19@hmms.on.ca.