

Ministry of Health

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April 25, 2020

MEMORANDUM TO: Chief Executive Officers of Ontario Public Hospitals

FROM: Helen Angus
Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health

Matthew Anderson
President & CEO, Ontario Health

Richard Steele
Deputy Minister, Ministry of Long-Term Care

RE: **Emergency Order to support Hospitals in Assisting Long Term Care Response**

On April 24, 2020, amendments to emergency order O.Reg. 74/20 were made to allow defined health service providers, including public hospitals, to redeploy staff to provide assistance in long-term care homes.

This Emergency Order enables hospitals to partner with long-term care homes to temporarily provide staffing resources in homes to assist in the stabilization of homes during their COVID-19 response. As a result of the order, hospitals can set staff schedules and assign duties for their staff within long-term care homes while assuring the staff that they remain employees of the hospital with all rights guaranteed to them under their collective agreements. It also enables hospitals to deploy infection prevention and control to ensure the safety of all workers. Ontario Health will now work with hospitals to identify the temporary resources to be deployed to long-term care homes in their respective areas. Attached to this memo we have included a copy of the order and a set of frequently asked questions.

In follow up, the Ontario Hospital Association will host an all member teleconference in which the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Long-Term Care and Ontario Health will provide further information and describe the process Ontario Health regions are using to identify and deploy hospital staffing resources. This information will also be shared with our provincial labour partners.

We wish to thank hospitals and all their staff for their willingness to help our partners in long-term care to care for residents and stabilize their homes so they may return to normal operations.

Sincerely,

(original signed by)

Helen Angus
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Health

Matthew Anderson
President & CEO
Ontario Health

Richard Steele
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Long-Term Care

Attachment

- c: Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health
- Melanie Fraser, Associate Deputy Minister, Health Services
- Mike Heenan, Assistant Deputy Minister, Hospitals and Capital Division
- Brian Pollard, Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Homes Division
- Michael Hillmer, Assistant Deputy Minister, Capacity Planning and Analytics Division
- Catherine Brown, Ontario Health
- Anthony Dale, President & CEO, Ontario Hospital Association
- Donna Duncan, President & CEO, Ontario Long Term Care Association
- Lisa Levin, President & CEO, AdvantAge Ontario
- Ontario Health, Regional Leads