CHECKLIST FOR CLIENTS BEING SENT FOR COVID-19 TESTING

Shelter, Support and Housing Administration

Current as of October 8, 2020

PURPOSE

Use this checklist to help plan for a client who has been assessed as needing clinical assessment at a Toronto Region COVID-19 Assessment Centre/hospital.

CHECKLIST TO PREPARE CLIENTS FOR COVID-19 TESTING	
DO NOT DISCHARGE A CLIENT YOU SEND FOR TESTING	
When clients are tested at the Toronto Region COVID-19 Assessment	
Centre, it can take a few hours or days to receive back results from test.	
Follow the instructions in the COVID-19 Policy & Procedure: Bed	
Deactivation for Clients Referred to Isolation/Recovery Sites	
Clients who receive a negative test will either a) return to the referring	
shelter program or b) be required to isolate for a length of time as	
recommended by Toronto Public Health	
Clients who receive a positive test will be transported to a recovery	
program and/or hospital where they will remain for a stay as per health	
guidance	
• Do not discharge the client or release their bed on SMIS when sending a	
client for testing. Recovery program staff will contact you to confirm that	
you can discharge the client from the program and deactivate the bed on	
ŚMIS.	
ASSESS IF CLIENT HAS PETS	
 Follow instructions outlined in SSHA's COVID-19 Pets in Temporary 	
Care Policy and Procedure	
When a client with a pet is required to go to a hospital or assessment	
centre for COVID-19 testing, staff must help the client to arrange care	
for the pet. Only service animals are to accompany their owners to test	
sites.	
If client tests negative, the client will most likely be able to return to	
shelter site and reclaim their pet	
• If a client is referred to an isolation/recovery program that is pet-friendly,	
they will be reunited with their pet at this site	
If a client is referred to an isolation/recovery program that does not	
accept pets, their pet will be placed in the temporary care of a family	
member/friend or, as a last resort, a Toronto Animal Services site.	
ASSESS IF CLIENT HAS BELONGINGS & STORE IF NECESSARY	
• If client has belongings on site at shelter, assess the need to secure and	
store belongings in client's absence.	
REVIEW WITH CLIENT THE STEPS IN BEING TESTED FOR COVID-19	
Share with the client the Info Sheet for Clients with COVID-19	
Symptoms	
Explain the process of being tested for COVID-19 including:	
transportation to the Assessment Centre, the test itself (a swab), the	
necessity to remain patient as there may be wait times, any phone	
numbers that the client may need to be in touch with shelter/supports as	
necessary.	



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ASSESS IF CLIENT HAS MEDICATIONS & ARRANGE TO SEND, IF	
NECESSARY	
 If client has medication on site with shelter, send medications with clients for testing. If client tests positive at Toronto Region COVID-19 Assessment Centre, the client will stay for at least 10 days at a recovery program. 	
SEND CLIENT WITH SNACKS, IF POSSIBLE	
 There may be a waiting period at the Assessment Centre before the client is seen. If possible, send with drinks/snacks to make their stay more comfortable. 	
ASSESS IF CLIENT NEEDS ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS TO REMAIN FOR	
TESTING	
 Assess if client needs additional supports to remain on-site for testing, including managed alcohol or staff support. If available and able, staff may accompany client to Assessment Centre. If client is in Managed Alcohol Program (MAP), send schedule of MAP 	
with client in the event that admission to recovery program is necessary.	

