

Congregate Living Setting Resources Toolkit

This document provides an overview of resources for those working on COVID-19 prevention and response in congregate living settings (e.g., shelters, group homes, supportive housing).

Congregate Living Setting Resources

[COVID-19 Preparedness and Prevention in Congregate Living Settings](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This checklist can be used by administrators and staff members in a range of congregate living settings to help plan for, prevent and detect COVID-19. (Measures include use of personal protective equipment, ventilation of indoor spaces and other infection prevention and control measures. Ensure that your HVAC system is regularly assessed by professionals designated in HVAC cleaning, maintenance and repair to ensure safe and appropriate ventilation for your specific setting).

[Managing COVID-19 Outbreaks in Congregate Living Settings](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This checklist can be used by congregate living setting administrators and staff members and local public health unit staff members when there is an outbreak or possible outbreak in a congregate living setting.

[COVID-19: Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) and Non-Medical Masks in Congregate Living Settings](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This document is intended to provide administrators and staff with information on personal protective equipment (PPE) and masks to prevent the spread of infection (source control) in congregate living settings. It provides information on what PPE staff members and residents should wear when there is an outbreak of COVID-19 in the facility and when there is not.

[Cohorting during an Outbreak of COVID-19 in a Congregate Living Setting](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This webinar from July 21, 2020 will review the principles of cohorting of clients and staff during a COVID-19 outbreak in a congregate living setting.

[COVID-19: Cohorting in Outbreaks in Congregate Living Settings](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This is a detailed document on cohorting intended for public health units to use when assisting congregate living settings in establishing and working in cohorts during a COVID-19 outbreak.

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[COVID-19 How to Isolate in Place Tip Sheet for Homelessness Service Settings](#) (Toronto Public Health):

This tip sheet is designed to help homelessness service providers strategize for isolation in place and cohorting clients and staff within the shelter.

[COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions for Congregate Living Settings](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This updated document is intended to provide support to administrators and staff members of congregate living settings. It provides answers to questions received from the May 2020 webinars, as well as other sources.

Ministry of Health Guidance COVID-19 Guidance**[Congregate Living for Vulnerable Populations](#) (Ministry of Health):**

This resource provides Ministry of Health guidance for administrators and staff members of congregate living settings when there is no COVID-19 in the facility, when there is a suspect case of COVID-19 and when there is an outbreak in the facility.

Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Resources**[Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) - How to Wash Your Hands](#) (Public Health Ontario):**

This fact sheet provides guidance on how to wash and sanitize your hands.

[How to Clean Your Hands](#) (City of Toronto):

This fact sheet provides guidance on how to wash and sanitize your hands.

[Hand sanitizing poster](#) (Toronto Public Health):

This fact sheet provides guidance on how to wash and sanitize your hands.

[Keep Physical Distance](#) (City of Toronto):

This fact sheet provides guidance on physical distancing.

[COVID-19: Physical Distancing](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This fact sheet provides guidance on physical distancing.

[How to Self-Isolate](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This fact sheet provides guidance on how to self-isolate (including improving indoor air quality, wearing a mask and physical distancing).

[Infection Prevention and Control Fundamentals](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This document provides key resources on the fundamentals of infection prevention and control (IPAC). The videos and other learning materials can be used by staff working in any setting.

[Congregate Living Setting Resources Toolkit 2 Webinar: Foundations of COVID-19 Prevention and Control for Congregate Living Settings](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This webinar from May 7, 2020 provides an overview of how to prepare for and prevent COVID-19 in congregate living settings. It reviews general information of the risk of COVID-19 in these settings, preparedness steps, physical distancing, and infection prevention and control principles, including the use of personal protective equipment.

[IPAC For Extenders](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This webinar from December 15, 2020 discusses the basics of screening, cohorting, distancing and cleaning/disinfecting in congregate settings.

[Health Care Huddles: IPAC Checkpoints](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This resource is designed for infection prevention and control (IPAC) leads at congregate settings, such as shelters and group homes, to assist them with providing reminders of key IPAC information at shift-change meetings or huddles, especially for new employees.

[Putting and Taking off PPE in Shelter Settings](#) (Toronto Public Health):

This is a step-by-step demonstration of how to properly take off personal protective equipment in the homelessness service setting

[COVID-19 Information Sheet: Use of PPE in Homelessness Services Settings](#) (City of Toronto):

This document provides in-depth information regarding PPE for shelter service providers.

[Putting on and taking off PPE](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This document contains two posters that describes the steps in putting on and taking off PPE.

[COVID-19: Use of Face Masks](#) (Toronto Public Health):

This fact sheet provides tips on what masks and face coverings do and how to wear them safely.

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[Droplet and Contact Precautions in non-acute care facilities](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This document describes how to manage residents requiring Droplet and Contact precautions including the use of personal protective equipment.

[Cleaning and Disinfection Cleaning and disinfection for public settings](#) (Public Health Ontario):

This document provides guidance on cleaning and disinfection of public settings and includes information applicable to congregate living settings.

[Cleaning and Disinfecting Sleeping Mats](#) (Toronto Public Health):

This document provides step-by-step instructions for cleaning and disinfecting sleeping mats used in homelessness service settings.

[Room Cleaning and Disinfecting Checklist – Infection Prevention and Control in Homelessness Service Settings](#) (Toronto Public Health):

This document provides step-by-step instructions for cleaning and disinfecting rooms in homelessness service settings.

[Guidance on indoor ventilation during the pandemic](#) (Health Canada): This document is a guide developed by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) about how indoor ventilation, in combination with other recommended public health measures, can help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

[FAQ Use of Portable Air Cleaners and Transmission of COVID-19](#) (Public Health Ontario): This document is a practical resource on using portable air cleaners as a measure to improve indoor air quality.

[Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning \(HVAC\) Systems in Buildings and COVID-19](#) (Public Health Ontario): This document is a summary of ventilation and filtration concepts as they relate to the management of COVID-19 transmission.