

May 25, 2020

**MEMORANDUM TO: Health System Organizations and Providers**

**SUBJECT: Update on COVID-19 Preparations and Actions**

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In follow-up to our last communication, we are pleased to share additional updates from the provincial Health Command Table on key actions that are being taken to address COVID-19:

- **Expanding approaches to support recovery:** We continue to explore new tactics and enhance existing approaches to ensure we have the right supports to reopen the province. Activities include:
  - **Continuing implementation of the province's testing plan:**
    - Build on the direction issued on May 24<sup>th</sup> to expand the availability of testing to **all symptomatic** individuals, as well as **asymptomatic** individuals based on risk.
    - Continue to work with partners across government and the health system to implement broader testing in the community and continue targeted cycles of testing in settings such as long-term care homes, retirement homes, other congregate settings, and essential workplaces.
  - **Accelerating targeted actions in case and contact management based on the latest available data about the pandemic,** in order to:
    - Test, trace and isolate cases and contacts to limit the spread of COVID-19;
    - Enable data collection to identify and address outbreaks and trends; and
    - Build public confidence as public health measures are eased and the economy opens up.

We continue to work with local and federal partners to ensure that public health partners have access to staff and resources needed to conduct timely and effective contact tracing.

We thank you for your continued work to support the implementation of our provincial efforts to respond to the pandemic and implement a phased recovery.

Sincerely,

*(original signed by)*

Helen Angus  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Health

Dr. David Williams  
Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Ministry of Health

Matthew Anderson  
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Ontario Health