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**Directive 03-HCF01(R)**

**June 16, 2003**

## **DIRECTIVE TO ALL HEALTH CARE FACILITIES IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN ONTARIO**

*Note: “Central and Eastern Ontario” is defined as the following municipalities: the counties of Haliburton, Peterborough, Northumberland, Hastings, Prince Edward, and Renfrew, and City of Kawartha Lakes (formerly Victoria County) and does **not** include Lennox & Addington, North Frontenac, Central Frontenac, and South Frontenac.*

*This Directive replaces the Directive to all Health Care Facilities in Central and Eastern Ontario (Directive 03-HCF01, June 13, 2003)*

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care directs all health care facilities in Central and Eastern Ontario to adopt heightened vigilance in the detection and monitoring of infectious respiratory illnesses.

Effective immediately, all health care facilities in this area are directed to:

- Use the SARS Screening Tool to screen patients, staff, volunteers and visitors when entering the facility.
  - Screener in Emergency Department entrances of acute care facilities must wear full personal protective equipment including gown, gloves, N95 mask or equivalent and protective eye-wear and have hand sanitation agent immediately available for their own use.
  - Screener at other entrances to acute care facilities and entrances to all other health care facilities must wear an N95 mask or equivalent and protective eyewear. Screeners should have hand sanitation agent immediately available for their own use.
- Use routine practices as defined by Health Canada for all patient contact. For exposure to patients/residents with respiratory symptoms or fever suggestive of an infectious disease, staff are directed to utilize SARS precautions (N95 mask or equivalent, gown, gloves and protective eyewear) until SARS has been ruled out by medical assessment.

- Initiate active surveillance to identify cases early in an outbreak, or in anticipation of an outbreak, and to identify the most appropriate infection control precautions.
- Ensure that staff do not work when they are feeling sick.

*Original signed by*

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**Dr. James G. Young**  
Commissioner of  
Public Security

*Original signed by*

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**Dr. Colin D’Cunha**  
Commissioner of  
Public Health and Chief Medical  
Officer of Health