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Memorandum

To: ADP-Registered Vendors for Home Oxygen Therapy

From: David Schachow, Interim Director, Assistive Devices Program

Date: September 16, 2021

Subject: **Temporary Policy for Long-Term Care Homes with an Active Outbreak of COVID-19**

For residents of a Long-Term Care Home (LTCH) who need oxygen therapy, but the LTCH is denying vendor entry due to an outbreak of COVID-19, the Assistive Devices Program (ADP) is advising the ADP-registered vendor to speak directly with the LTCH's Director of Care.

Under Directive # 3 for Long-Term Care Homes under the *Long-Term Care Homes Act*, essential visitors are permitted entry to the home even in the case of an outbreak. Home oxygen vendors are considered essential visitors and should not be denied entry to the home as they are providing medically necessary services to the residents. The vendor is subject to all requirements under Directive # 3 and any Minister's Directive issued by the Ministry of Long-Term Care as they pertain to essential visitors, and must comply with the home's visitor policy. These measures are to protect the vendor in addition to the residents and the staff in the home, and include but are not limited to active screening, masking, and physical distancing when not providing direct care to a resident.

If any LTCH continues to deny the ADP-registered vendor access to the resident, please contact adpvendors@ontario.ca. The ADP will then work with the Ministry of Long-Term Care to ensure that vendors may enter the LTCH.

All questions related to this memorandum should be sent to: adpvendors@ontario.ca.

(original signed by)

David Schachow
Interim Director, Assistive Devices Program
Ministry of Health