**Checklist for Homes for Special Care Tenants Experiencing**

**Mild Symptoms of COVID-19 -** Current as March 25, 2020

**If a tenant is having severe difficulty breathing (struggling for each breath, speaking in single words), severe chest pain, having a very hard time waking up, feeling confused, lost consciousness, call 911**

If the tenant is experiencing other symptoms, use the checklist below

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| Use this Checklist if a tenant is experiencing the following symptoms: fever, new cough, difficulty breathing (struggling for each breath, cannot hold breath for more than 10 seconds), muscle aches, fatigue, headache, sore throat, runny nose. |
| Wash or sanitize your hands, wear gloves and put a mask on | □ |
| Ask the tenant to wash or sanitize their hands and put a mask on | □ |
| Isolate the tenant in the isolation room/area of the home immediately | □ |
| Call the tenant’s doctor or Telehealth Ontario (1-866-797-0000) for a phone assessment. Tell the doctor or Telehealth Ontario that the tenant lives in a congregate living setting with vulnerable people | □ |
| If the doctor or Telehealth Ontario advises, arrange tenant transportation/ accompaniment to the a COVID-19 Assessment Centre for screening. Do not arrange the for the tenant to visit an Assessment Centre unless they have been referred by a health care professional. Do not call 911 unless it is an emergency | □ |
| The tenant should wear a facemask for the duration of the drive to the Assessment Centre, be in the backseat alone and travel with the windows open where possible | □ |
| Explain to the tenant the steps in being tested for COVID-19 including:Transportation to the Assessment Centre, the test itself (a swab up the nose), expect to be at the Assessment Centre for a long period as there may be wait times | □ |
| The tenant should take their Medical Information Form with them | □ |
| If your community has an isolation centre for people who have been screened and are awaiting test results (results can take up to 5 days), send clothing, medication and personal items with the tenant when travelling to the Assessment Centre | □ |
| If the tenant returns to the home, the tenant should be isolated in the isolation room/area. Staff should use personal protective equipment (see below) when providing direct care to the tenant. If staff can remain 2 metres/ 6 feet from the resident, a mask is not required. | □ |
| Complete an Incident Report and send it to the HSC Office immediately | □ |

**Guidelines for use of personal protective equipment:**

If close contact (less than 2 metres/ 6 feet) with the person with suspect or confirmed COVID-19 is required for direct care (e.g. bathing, toileting), use Droplet and Contact Precautions. This includes Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

* procedure masks provide a physical barrier that help prevent the transmission of the virus by blocking respiratory droplets propelled by coughing, sneezing and talking
* disposable single use gloves should be worn when in direct contact with the ill person, cleaning contaminated surfaces, and handling items soiled with body fluids. Reusable utility gloves may be used; however, they must be cleaned with soap and water and decontaminated after each use with a store bought disinfectant
* isolation gown, when skin or clothing may become contaminated
* eye protection such as goggles or a face shield for care or activities likely to generate splashes or sprays of body fluids. (Source [Public Health Agency of Canada](https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/health-professionals/interim-guidance-cases-contacts.html#ppm), [Public Health Ontario](https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/ipac/ipac-additional-precautions-non-acute-care.pdf?la=en)).

Detailed instructions on how to use PPE are available on Public Health Ontario’s website

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/ipac/ppe-recommended-steps>