

March 26, 2020

COVID19: MOLTC News Release - Additional Staffing Protocols; Amendments to Ontario Regulation 79/10 under the Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007 related to the COVID-19 Pandemic – Admissions and Discharge with Q&A

March 24, 2020: Ministry of Long-Term Care News Release- Additional Protocols for Staffing in Long-Term Care Homes

On March 23rd the Ministry of Long-Term Care enacted a new order (under the March 17, 2020 declaration of emergency) that would give long-term care homes the ability to free-up staff, identify staffing priorities, modify and implement redeployment plans. This means that:

- Staff can be deployed within different locations (or between) facilities of the health service provider
- Employing extra part-time to temporary staff or contractors, including for the purposes of performing bargaining unit work
- Volunteers can be used to perform work, including to perform bargaining unit work
- And more...

Read the March 24th News Release Here: "[Ontario Implements Enhanced Measures to Protect the Safety of Residents in Long-Term Care Homes](#)"

Amendments to Ontario Regulation 79/10 (Regulation) under the Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007 (LTCHA) pertaining to long-term care home admissions and discharge during the COVID-19 pandemic

To support hospitals and help alleviate capacity pressures the MOLTC has amended provisions in Ontario Regulation 79/10 (O. Reg 79/10) under the Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007 pertaining to admissions and discharge from homes during the COVID-19 pandemic. "Effective March 24th:

1. Facilitate placement in long-term care homes to help address severe capacity pressures faced by public hospitals through a truncated placement process.

- These applicants may be placed in preferred accommodation if they requested basic accommodation and the licensee must offer the accommodation as basic accommodation. In these circumstances, the Ministry will reimburse licensees for the cost-difference.
 - Permitting placement of people waiting for basic into preferred would help move patients out of hospital beds faster.
2. Support placement co-ordinators and long-term care homes in being able to facilitate placement of applicants seeking long-term care home placement from outside of a hospital through more nimble placement requirements.
 3. Prevent community applicants from being penalized for refusing to move into a long-term care home during the pandemic by eliminating the requirement that they be removed from all waiting lists (hospital applicants are already exempt from this requirement).
 4. Enable current residents to leave a long-term care home if they wish to do so due to COVID19 and expedite their return to the long-term care home when they need to go back. The resident will be discharged and the bed will then be available for occupancy by another person.”

Read More Here: March 24, 2020 MOLTC [Memo](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions](#)