

Ministry of Long-Term Care

# Regulation Changes Information Session

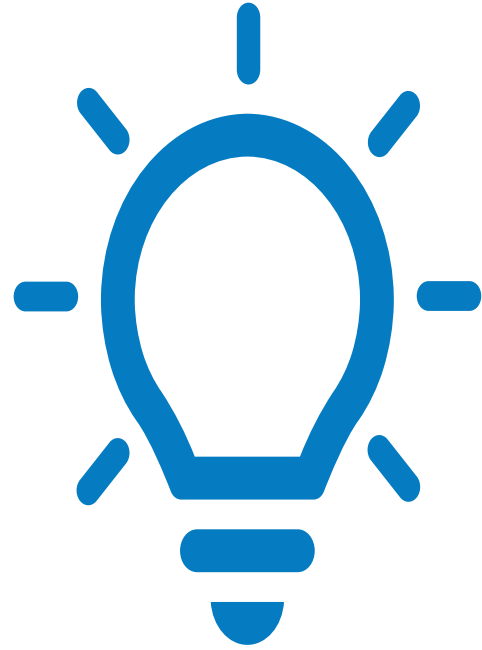
*For Residents, Families and Caregivers*

April 2023

# Why are we here today?

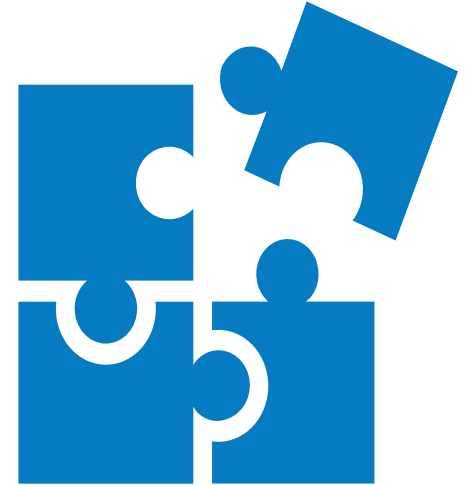
To:

- Learn about the new regulations for long-term care homes in Ontario.
- Discuss what it means for long-term care residents, families and caregivers.
- Answer your questions.



# What is new?

- On April 11, the Ministry made some changes to the rules that long-term care homes need to follow.
- The changes include to:
  - The way residents safely receive medications.
  - Ensuring that residents live comfortably in their home.
  - Qualification requirements for some staff positions.



# Why are there new rules?

- Changes were made based feedback the Ministry received from residents, families and caregivers, as well as homes.



# Did residents and families have a say?

- The Ontario Association of Residents' Councils helped the Ministry to connect with resident representatives and Family Councils Ontario helped the ministry to connect with representatives of families and caregivers.

# Drug Administration



- More health professionals can administer drugs to their full scope of practice. For example, pharmacists can now give COVID-19 and flu shots.
- At homes' discretion, PSWs can administer drugs if they have received training and follow certain rules.
- For safety reasons, PSWs cannot administer drugs that are a controlled substance such as a narcotic, opioid, or other high alert drugs like insulin.
- COVID-19 vaccines must be offered to residents, just like the flu shot.

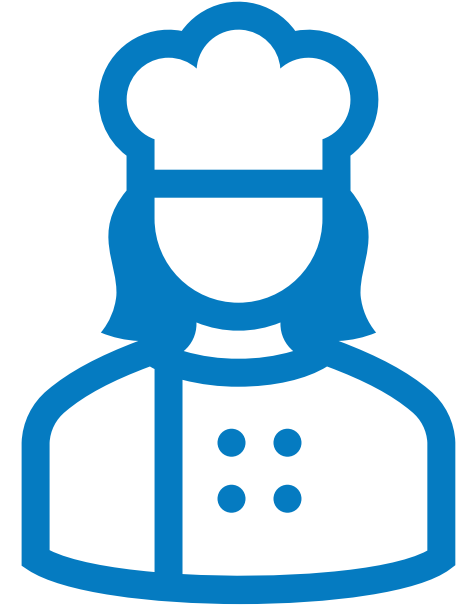
# Drug Administration

- With every new admission, homes will be required to have written in the resident's admission care plans, where known:
  - The reason for taking the medication.
  - Any known adverse drug allergies and reactions.
- As well as a thorough evaluation of all medications to ensure the safety and effectiveness of taking them.



# Staffing Qualifications

- More flexibility for homes to hire and retain qualified candidates as staff, for example, to provide food services.



# Resident Experience

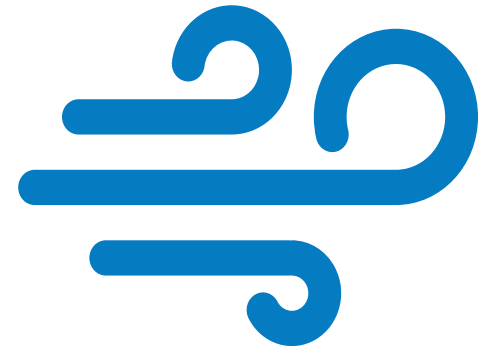
- If a resident falls, the home will *always* complete a post-fall assessment.
- Residents will be assessed by a Registered Dietitian if they exhibit a skin condition that is likely to require or respond to nutrition intervention.





# Air Conditioning

- A new penalty of \$25,000 for homes that fail to have air conditioning, installed and in good working order, in every resident bedroom and designated cooling area from May 15 to September 15.
- Make clear the types of air conditioning systems homes are permitted to install.
- Clarify when homes are permitted to remove portable or window air conditioners, and where possible, to respect residents' choices and preferences.



# Alternative Level of Care (ALC)

- Make clear that a placement coordinator can place an ALC patient who has **only** requested a basic room in a private or semi-private room at the basic rate.
- Clarifying that a resident who was an ALC patient and is in a private or semi-private room can only be asked to pay the preferred rate if they choose to stay or refuse an offer to transfer to a basic, and a preferred accommodation agreement has been signed by the LTC licensee and resident (or resident substitute decision maker).



# What's Next?

- The Ministry will continue to keep residents and families informed and listen to their questions and concerns.
- While it is the home's responsibility to follow the rules, the Ministry has provided supports to them.
- The Ministry will continue to propose changes based on experience with the rules.



**Thank you!**

**Question Period**



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