

## Supporting NPs in LTC through COVID-19

Meeting #5- April 13, 2020

Agenda Items	Discussion Points
PPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RNAO is examining issues that involve PPE on a daily basis.</li> <li>• All staff and visitors in long-term care and retirement homes should be adhering to <i>universal masking</i> (wearing a mask at all times to prevent COVID transmission). If your facility is short on PPE, please let your regional PPE coordinators know:  <a href="https://myrnao.ca/sites/default/files/attached_files/PPE%20Leads%20-%20April%205%2C%202020.pdf">https://myrnao.ca/sites/default/files/attached_files/PPE%20Leads%20-%20April%205%2C%202020.pdf</a></li> <li>• If you continue to experience issues, please let Doris know: <a href="mailto:dgrinspun@rnao.ca">dgrinspun@rnao.ca</a>.</li> <li>• Continue to use the protocols for N95 masks- i.e. during Aerosolizing Generating Procedures (trach care, when caring for patients on ventilators, etc. as per IPAC updated recommendations).</li> </ul>
Testing + COVID-19 Outbreaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If your facility is short on testing supplies, please reach out to let us know.</li> <li>• Some LTC homes are checking staff temperatures when they arrive and leave work every day as a surveillance measure.</li> <li>• Infection Prevention Protocol is live, and available on RNAO's website here: <a href="https://myrnao.ca/sites/default/files/attached_files/Considerations%20for%20Isolating%20Residents%20of%20LTC%20Covid%2019%20%28FINAL%29%20April%201%2C%202020.pdf">https://myrnao.ca/sites/default/files/attached_files/Considerations%20for%20Isolating%20Residents%20of%20LTC%20Covid%2019%20%28FINAL%29%20April%201%2C%202020.pdf</a></li> <li>• Michael's LTC facility does not have any COVID cases yet. He attributes this success to: building capacity- staffing up on the number of RN's; ensuring PPE supply is available; not questioning staff when they call in sick; keeping the MD's out of the facility whenever possible; and utilizing the NP for the most urgent concerns only. In addition to this, the facility has moved the screening to outside vs. inside (i.e. absolutely no access to the building until screening is complete).</li> </ul>
Palliative and End of Life Care and Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Palliative Care Consultants are available to assist and are assigned by LHIN region. Each LTC home likely already has existing relationships with these consultations. Consider leveraging this service when needed, even if the Palliative Care Consultants are unable to physically come into the home (can assist with decisions, palliation, and support for families virtually).</li> <li>• Palliative and End of Life Care Protocol is live, and available on RNAO's website here: <a href="https://myrnao.ca/sites/default/files/attached_files/Planning-for-Palliative-Care-During-the-COVID-19%20Pandemic-April%209%2C%202020.pdf">https://myrnao.ca/sites/default/files/attached_files/Planning-for-Palliative-Care-During-the-COVID-19%20Pandemic-April%209%2C%202020.pdf</a></li> </ul>
Staffing Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ViaNurse through RNAO continues to be available. It houses a list of RNs, NPs and nursing students (for PSW roles) that are ready to be deployed. Do not wait until your LTC home is short-staffed to begin recruiting extra help; please build surge capacity now by emailing <a href="mailto:hmconnell@RNAO.ca">hmconnell@RNAO.ca</a> and <a href="mailto:dlau@RNAO.ca">dlau@RNAO.ca</a> or accessing the following website: <a href="https://rnao.ca/news/information-2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19#VIANurse">https://rnao.ca/news/information-2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19#VIANurse</a></li> <li>• RNAO is continuing to match nurses with organizations in need. Over 7,000 RNs, 900 RNs with experience in critical care, and 250 NPs are ready to be deployed and can be accessed within hours of contacting RNAO.</li> <li>• Mental Health/Wellbeing resources are live, and available on RNAO's website: <a href="https://myrnao.ca/sites/default/files/attached_files/MH%20and%20Well%20bei">https://myrnao.ca/sites/default/files/attached_files/MH%20and%20Well%20bei</a></li> </ul>

	<p><a href="#">ng%20Psychosocial%20supports%20during%20Covid%2019%20-%20April%209.pdf</a></p>
Additional RNAO Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RNAO is working with Advantage Ontario and the Ontario Association of Residents Council to provide support, answer questions, and collaborate on strategies for virtual visits, etc.</li> <li>• RNAO is hosting webinars titled “Legal issues in nursing practice related to COVID-19 (LAP webcast).” The next session offered is on April 14 from 5:30-7:30pm. Repeated sessions will be offered in the coming weeks. Please register in advance through <a href="#">myRNAO.ca</a>.</li> </ul>
Facebook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are several active Facebook Groups RNAO has set up to facilitate peer support, family support and knowledge exchange. Please see below. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Family Support- Connecting Families Facebook Group: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/RNAOLTCsupportGroup">https://www.facebook.com/groups/RNAOLTCsupportGroup</a></li> <li>2) Sharing and Tackling Emerging Care Issues Together Facebook Group: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/login/?next=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fgroups%2FRNAOTacklingIssues%2F">https://www.facebook.com/login/?next=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fgroups%2FRNAOTacklingIssues%2F</a></li> <li>3) Peer-to-Peer Support During COVID-19 Facebook Group: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/login/?next=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fgroups%2FRNAOPeertoPeerSupport%2F">https://www.facebook.com/login/?next=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fgroups%2FRNAOPeertoPeerSupport%2F</a></li> </ol> </li> </ul>
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Several resources were shared regarding deprescribing (reducing med pass frequency). See below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) There are several de-prescribing algorithms written by the Ontario Pharmacy Evidence Network- <a href="https://www.open-pharmacy-research.ca/research-projects/emerging-services/deprescribing-guidelines/">https://www.open-pharmacy-research.ca/research-projects/emerging-services/deprescribing-guidelines/</a></li> <li>2) <a href="#">deprescribing.org</a></li> <li>3) Nora will share with Heather and Doris an article from the American Geriatric Society re: deprescribing. This will be shared in Doris’ daily update and on the NP website shortly.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Jean is working on a protocol for different role responsibilities in LTC (i.e. RPN, RN, and NP), including when/how to escalate care concerns. This protocol will be shared with the group when ready. It will also include COVID-19 symptoms for all staff to be aware of.</li> <li>• Hoodo described a new LTC consultation model for COVID at St Joseph's in Hamilton. This was initiated to facilitate residents in LTC obtaining a consultation from emergency department physicians via a virtual platform. The goal is to reduce hospital transfers for LTC residents, and it is a nurse-led model with many community partners (i.e. lab/ diagnostic services, paramedics etc.). More info can be found here: <a href="https://www.stjoes.ca/coronavirus/information-for-our-staff/physicians/volunteers/learners">https://www.stjoes.ca/coronavirus/information-for-our-staff/physicians/volunteers/learners</a></li> <li>• Please make sure you have LAP coverage right now (can be obtained via RNAO). PLP is included in every RNAO membership, but it is advisable to also obtain LAP coverage right now.</li> <li>• Consider developing a Clinical Committee that is led by the medical director or nurse practitioner, with the aim of meeting regularly and problem-solving any COVID-19 issues arising in the LTC home.</li> </ul>
Future Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semi-weekly, every Monday and Thursday</li> <li>• 5:30 pm- 6:30 pm</li> <li>• Next meeting: Thursday, April 16 @ 5:30 pm *Please send us your questions in advance to <a href="mailto:kdieleman@rnao.ca">kdieleman@rnao.ca</a> or via the website question boxes.</li> </ul>

