

Memo

To: Hospitals, Long Term Care Homes and Retirement Homes
From: Sarah Titmus
Date: December 23, 2021
Re: COVID-19 case, contact and outbreak management: Omicron surge

Dear Long-Term Care Home and Retirement Home Colleagues:

Please be advised that the Ministry of Health has released updated guidance for COVID-19 case, contact and outbreak management. Key points in the guidance that Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit (HNHU) would like you to be aware of include:

- All high-risk contacts associated with a high-risk setting (e.g., hospitals, health care settings, LTCH and RH) of the case must self-isolate for 10 days (regardless of vaccination status or previously positive status).
- All high-risk contacts associated with a high-risk setting must be tested in accordance with [COVID-19 Provincial Testing and Clearance Guidance](#)
 - Recommend testing immediately
 - If the initial test was negative, repeat testing on or after day 7
 - If the initial test was done on or after day 7 of isolation, repeat testing is not necessary
- If the high-risk contact is a staff member in a health care or congregate living setting, and they are asymptomatic and fully vaccinated, they may work under work-self isolation if clinical care would be severely compromised without additional staffing.

The revised COVID-19 Case, Contact and Outbreak Management Interim Guidance: Omicron Surge is available [online from the Ministry of Health](#)

If you have any questions, please contact the COVID-19 Hotline at 519-427-6170 ext. 9999

Thank you for your help with this,

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