Personal Care Home COVID-19 Outbreak Preparedness

Town Hall Meeting
November 19, 2020

NOTE – THIS SESSION IS BEING RECORDED
Welcome

• Using WebEx events
• You will be on mute; we will have time for questions – you will need to raise your digital hand
• You will not be able to see other attendees
Participants

• Personal Care Home Licensees and Operators
• Ministry of Health
• Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA)
• Saskatchewan Association for Safe Workplaces in Health (SASWH)
• Prairie Wind Estate – Personal Care Home in Herbert, Saskatchewan
Introductions

- Billie-Jo Morrissette – Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
- Brad Havervold – Executive Director, Community Care Branch, Ministry of Health
- Dr. Brittany Ellis, Physician Lead, Geriatric Emergency Medicine, Saskatchewan Health Authority
- Sandra Cripps – CEO, Saskatchewan Association for Safe Workplaces in Health
- Janet Dillabaugh – Executive Director, Prairie Wind Estate Personal Care Home
Agenda

• Purpose of the Meeting
• Update – Increased Visitation Restrictions
• Refresher on Preparedness Supports
• SASWH Role
• New Supports
• Caring Safely for COVID Positive Cases in PCHs
• Lessons Learned – Reflecting on Outbreak in Herbert
• Comments and Questions from PCH Licensees and Operators
  – What are your concerns? What additional supports do you require?
Purpose of Town Hall

• Given the recent increase in COVID-19 cases in the province, the Ministry of Health, along with the SHA and SASWH, felt that it was time to check in with PCH Licensees and Operators.

• We want to ensure that you are aware of the supports being provided and that you have the opportunity to share any concerns.
New Restrictions

• As you are aware, additional COVID-19 response measures have been implemented effective today.
• This includes increased visitation restrictions in Personal Care Homes throughout the province.
• The need for these temporary restrictions will be reassessed on December 17\textsuperscript{th}.
• It essential that we work together to protect our vulnerable seniors population.
Refresher on Preparedness Supports


• This page is your key information resource and is updated on an ongoing basis.

• It includes information on:
  Prevention and Planning;
  What to do if a resident or staff member is displaying symptoms;
  What to when you have a suspected or confirmed case; and,
  The Outbreak Management Toolkit for Residential Care Facilities
SASWH Role

• SASWH provides the following services for Home Operators
  – Our Workplace Safety Specialists are available to help you with creating safer workplaces
    • Respiratory fit testing
    • PPE Burn Rate Calculator and contingency planning
  – Collaboration with all system partners
    • Supply chain trouble shooting
    • September 3rd offered a session to Home Operators if you missed it...it is now available for viewing on the SASHW website

• SASWH turns 10yrs old this year and is hosting a Speaker 10 Series if you haven’t done so already please register by going to the SASWH website at www.saswh.ca
New Supports

• Dedicated Infection Prevention and Control Support Services
  – The Ministry of Health is currently working to create two positions, full-time for one year at SASWH
  – The focus will be on providing advice to residential service providers on pandemic planning, infection control, etc.
  – Positions to be filled shortly. A WebEx will be scheduled in the near future to provide further information.
Caring Safely for COVID Positive Residents in PCHs

• Many acute care hospitals in the province at or over over-capacity (e.g. ICU, medicine, ED)
• Older people have increased morbidity and mortality when admitted to acute care
• Most older people want to be cared for in place
• To provide care in place requires planning and preparation
Caring Safely for COVID Positive Residents in PCHs

• We recognize that not all older people with COVID-19 will be able to be cared for in place.
• When concerns regarding medical needs arise, it is imperative that the resident's family physician/Nurse Practitioner be contacted for assessment/planning
  – Contact them early with concerns
  – 811 remains an alternative
• Symptoms in elderly – what to watch for
• It is critical that all residents should have up to date care plans, including medication lists and goals of care
**Presentation of COVID-19 in the Elderly**

**Typical Symptoms in Adults**
- cough
- fever
- shortness of breath
- sore throat

**Common (>20%) Symptoms Older Adults**
- myalgias, arthralgias
- fatigue, general weakness
- anorexia, weightloss
- chest tightness
- delirium, confusion
- sputum production

**Unique Symptoms in Older Adults with Dementia**
- falls
- behavioural changes
- wandering
- agitation

Composed by Dr. Brittany Ellis & the SHA Evidence Review Team
Infographic by Dr. Sarah Henschke
Thank you

• For the great work you are doing to create a safe environment for your residents and staff
• Ministry of Health, SHA and SASWH will continue to work together to determine how best to support PCH preparedness and response to COVID.
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