

COVID-19 Briefing Webinar

Dr. Fareen Karachiwalla, MD MPH CCFP FRCPC
Associate Medical Officer of Health



THIS MEETING WILL BE RECORDED

Please note this meeting will be recorded.

- During this meeting, you will have the opportunity to contribute or ask questions.
- Questions will be gathered and sorted to avoid duplication and ensure the best response.
- Although your name will not appear on the screen to attendees, producers and presenters may have access to that information.
- If you have questions about the recording of this webinar, please contact HEOCLiaison@york.ca

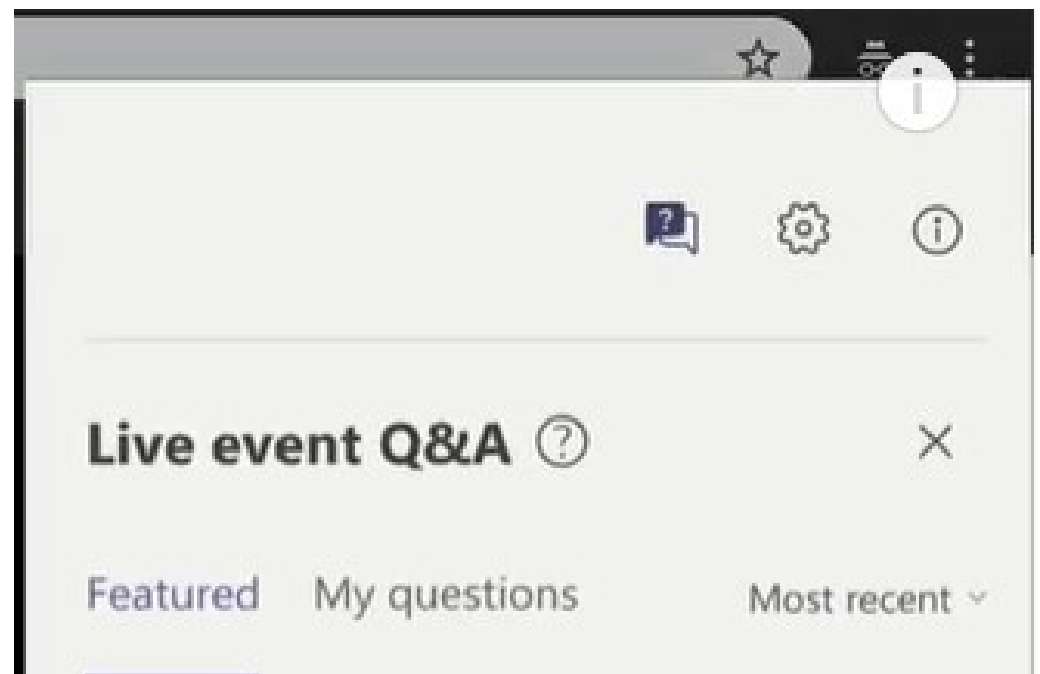
DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION?

To ask a question:

Select **Q&A** on the right side of the screen.

Type your question in the compose box, and then select **Send**.

Questions will be screened by the moderator and posed to the presenters.



York.ca/healthprofessionals

- CANCER
- COVID-19
- DENTAL
- ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
- FOOD SAFETY
- HEALTH AT WORK
- HEALTH INFORMATION LINE
- HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
- Announcements and Resources
- Cannabis
- Child Growth and Development
- COVID-19 Information for Health Professionals
- Early Years Support Services Registry
- Ebola Virus Disease for Health Professionals
- E-Newsletter for Health Care Professionals
- Health Statistics and Reports
- Infectious Diseases and Outbreak Management
- Information for Dental and Healthcare Providers
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Opioids
- Quitting Smoking
- Tuberculosis
- Vaccination Information for Healthcare Professionals



Announcements and Resources

York Region provides important public health updates and offers events and resources, like the Public Health Matters newsletter, to support health care providers



COVID-19 Information for Health Professionals

York Region Public Health continues to provide support for health professionals related to COVID-19 (formerly referred to as novel coronavirus or 2019-nCoV)



Cannabis

Cannabis, also known as marijuana, weed or pot, can be consumed for medical and non-medical purposes. Find out more about legalization and the health effects of cannabis use in adults and youth.



Child Growth and Development

Find tools and resources for parents to help children grow and develop. When parents know what to expect at each stage of development, it can be easier to meet their child's needs and understand their behaviour.



E-Newsletter for Health Care Professionals

Sign up to receive the quarterly Public Health Matters E-Newsletter for health care professionals.



Early Years Support Services Registry

This is a resource for health, early learning and child care professionals in York Region who wish to refer a young child or their family for support services. It provides information about programs and services available including details regarding eligibility and

NEWSROOM

Connect With Us!

- Facebook
- Twitter
- YouTube
- LinkedIn
- Flickr
- Instagram
- Pinterest
- e-News
- Mobile App

Campaigns & Projects



Radon: Test Your Home

You can't see, taste or smell radon but it is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Learn more about radon and the York Region study.

[More Campaigns & Projects >>](#)

Contact Us

Health Connection

EMAIL

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

1. Where are you currently joining us from (e.g. Vaughan, Markham)?
2. What is your field of practice (e.g. Family Medicine, pediatrics, dentistry, etc.)?
3. What is your specific role (e.g. Nurse Practitioner, Physician, etc.)

The background is a solid teal color with several overlapping geometric shapes in a darker shade of teal. These shapes include a large circle on the left, a large circle on the right, and a large triangle pointing downwards in the center. The text is centered horizontally and vertically over these shapes.

WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSIBLE FOR?

ROLE OF THE LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

Public Health Ontario (PHO)

Ministry of Health (MoH)

Local public health, e.g.: York Region Public Health

Ontario Health

Ontario Health
Central Region

HOW WE WORK WITH YOU

York Region Public Health	Health Care Provider
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case management• Contact tracing and follow up• Outbreak management• Disseminate and communicate important information to key stakeholders:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public• Health care providers• Education and support around infection prevention and control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remain up to date on Ministry guidance documents• Ensure proper infection prevention and control practices are followed• Support in the re enforcement of public health messages on prevention• Mandatory reporting of COVID-19• Sharing info with public health is enabled under the legislation

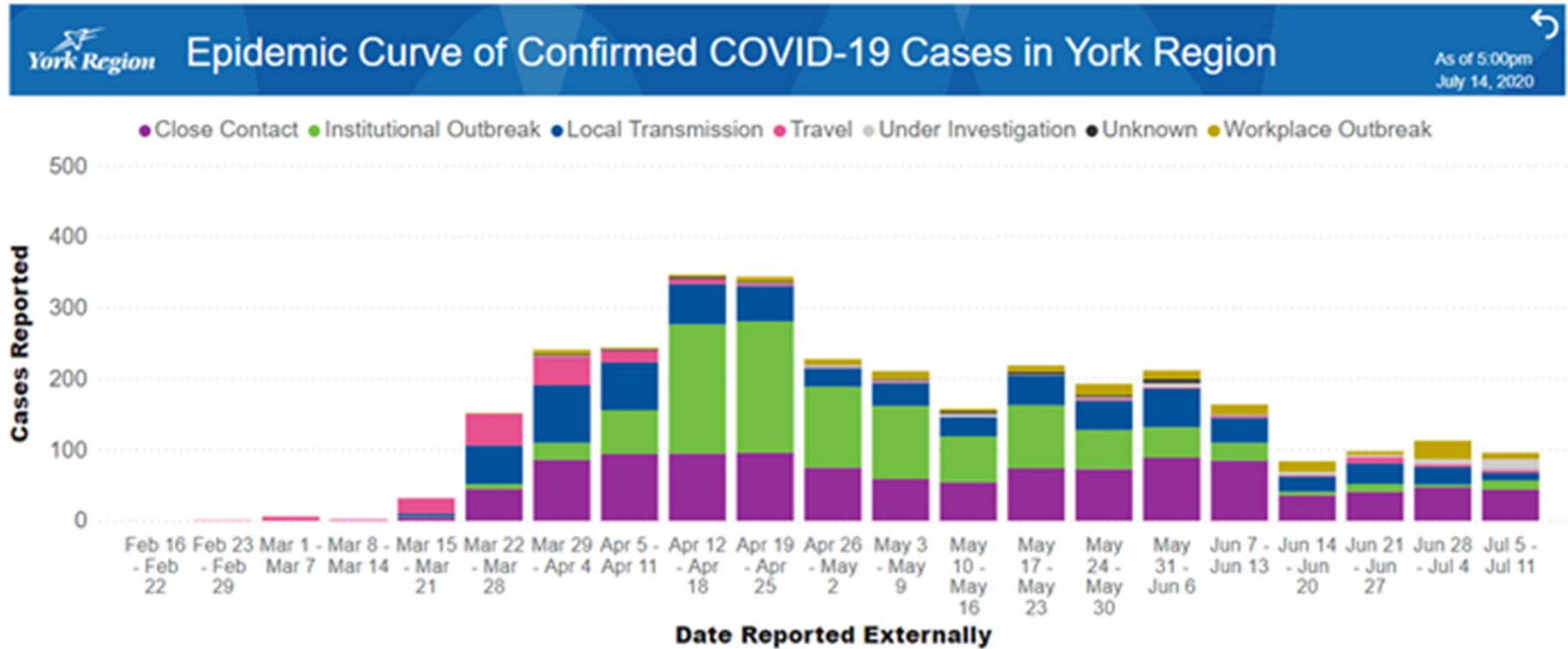
HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Clients look to their health care professional as a trusted source of information
- Some key messages that can be conveyed to clients:
 - Follow preventive advice
 - Hand washing, environmental cleaning, distancing, masking, staying home when ill
 - Follow testing and isolation advice
 - Adhere to provincial rules
 - Social circles and gathering rules
 - Download the Contact Management tool called COVID ALERT
- Pay attention to infection prevention and control in your own practice environment; ensure people stay home when ill; implement screening and distancing

The background is a solid teal color with several overlapping geometric shapes in a darker shade of teal. These shapes include a large semi-circle on the left, a large semi-circle on the right, and a large triangle pointing downwards in the center. The text is centered horizontally and vertically over these shapes.

WHAT ARE THE NUMBERS IN YORK REGION?

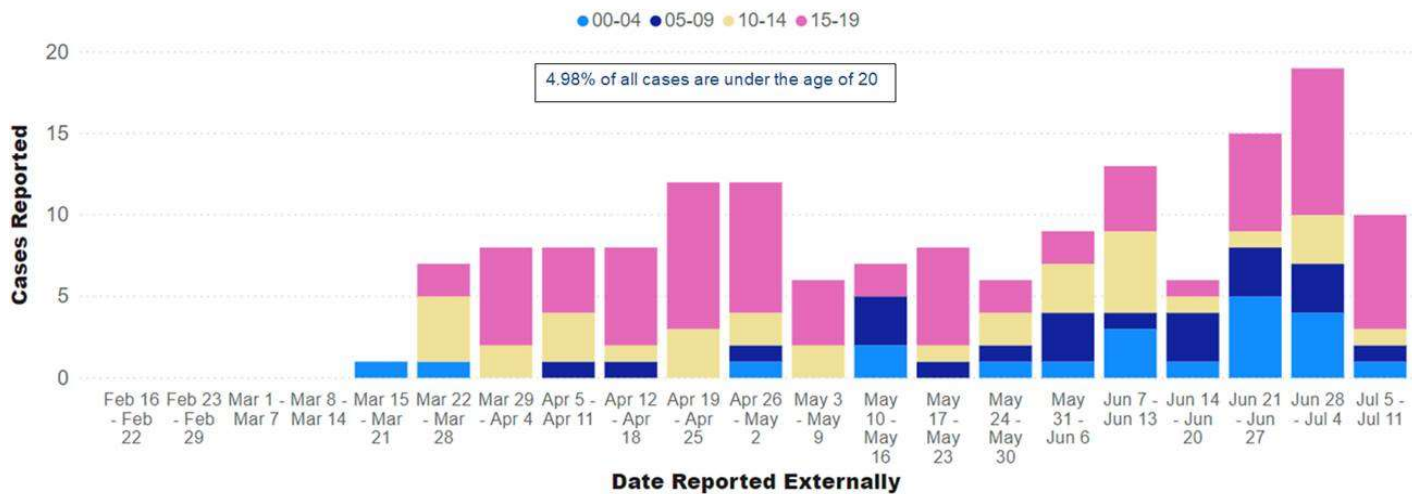
COVID-19 IN YORK REGION: THE NUMBERS



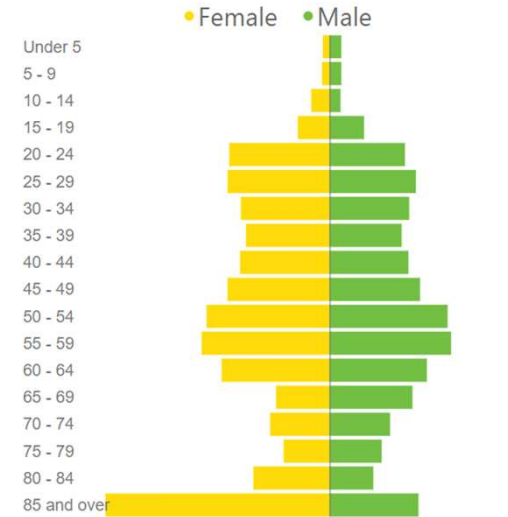
To access our dashboard go to: york.ca/covid19 and click on "COVID-19 in York Region"

COVID-19 IN YORK REGION: THE NUMBERS

York Region Epidemic Curve of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in York Region As of 5:00pm July 14, 2020



Cases by Age Group & Sex



The background is a solid teal color with several overlapping geometric shapes in a darker shade of teal. These shapes include a large circle on the left, a large circle on the right, and a large triangle pointing downwards in the center. The text is centered horizontally and vertically over these shapes.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE PAST COUPLE OF WEEKS?

MANDATORY USE OF FACE MASKS AND COVERINGS

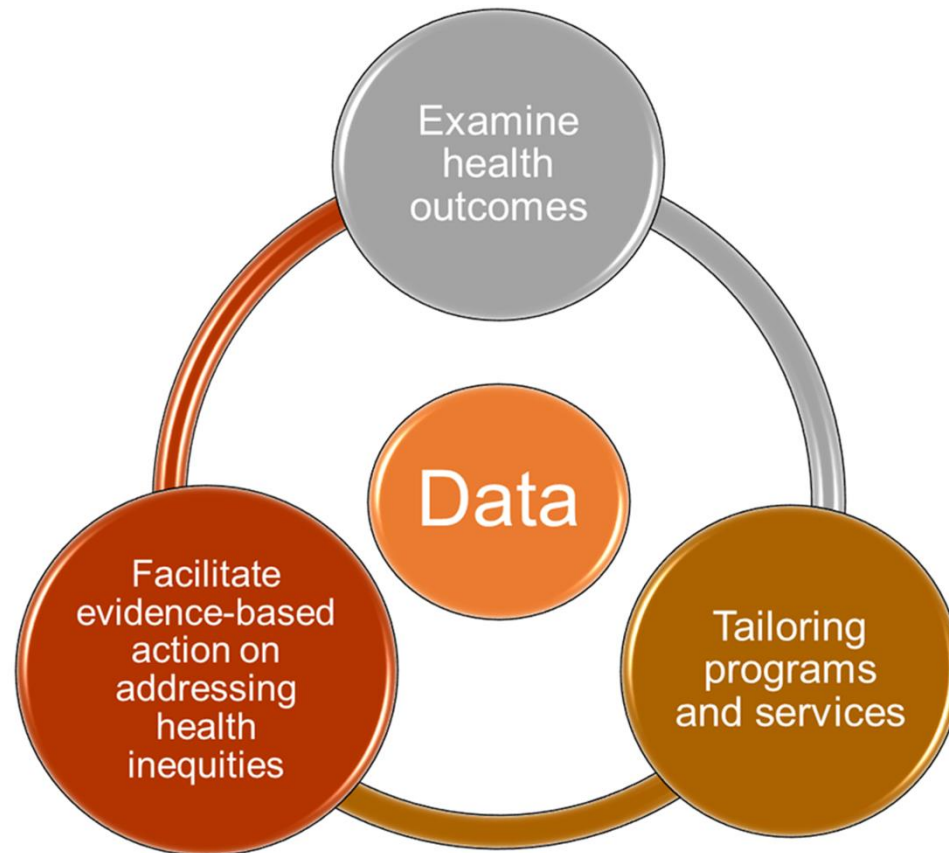
- As of 12:01a.m. Friday July 17, 2020, face masks or coverings are required in enclosed public spaces in York Region
- Dr. Karim Kurji, York Region Medical Officer of Health, has issued an instruction requiring operators of enclosed public spaces in York Region to have a policy that prohibits persons from entering premises of the establishment if the person is not wearing a face mask or covering, subject to appropriate exemptions

Exempt:

- Hospitals, independent health facilities
- Offices of regulated health professionals

For more information visit york.ca/mandatorymasks

COLLECTION OF SES DATA



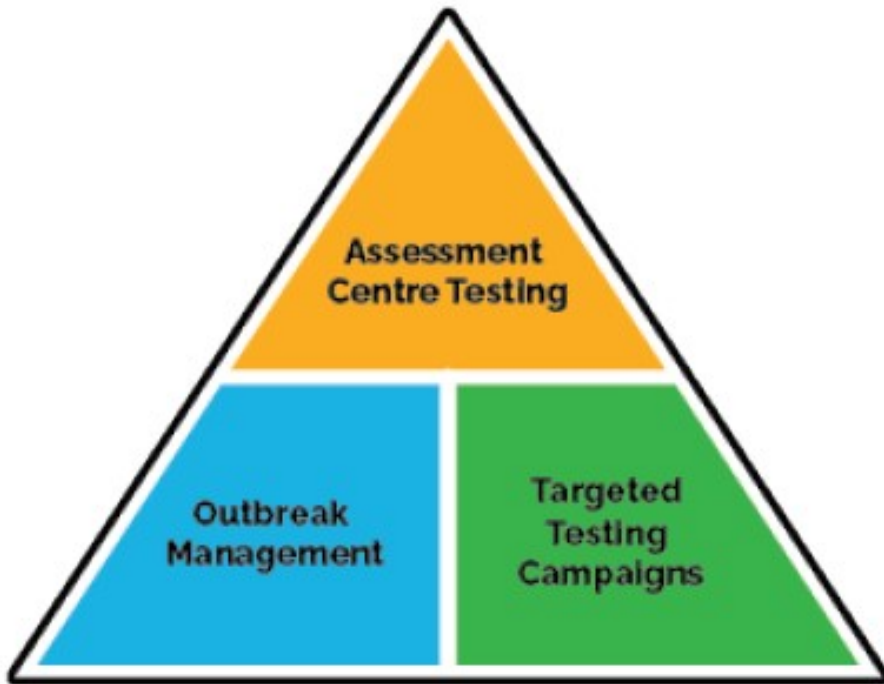
QUESTIONS ABOUT AIRBORNE TRANSMISSION

- Letter was written by scientists and other experts to WHO
- This issue is being extensively reviewed at federal and provincial tables and a response is being drafted
- In general what we know:
 - Not a clear dichotomy between contact/droplet and airborne (more of a spectrum)
 - Possible that aerosols can be generated and detected
 - Predominant way this virus behaves is consistent with contact/droplet
 - Broad, preventive public health messaging not affected

The background is a solid teal color with several overlapping, semi-transparent shapes in various shades of teal. These shapes include large circles and triangles, creating a layered, geometric effect. The text is centered horizontally and vertically within the teal area.

WHAT HAS CHANGED WITH REGARDS TO TESTING?

PROVINCIAL TESTING FRAMEWORK



Ministry of Health

COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance Update

V. 6.0, June 2, 2020

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve and laboratory testing capacity has increased, Ontario's provincial testing guidance is also being updated.

This document is an update to the COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance Update issued May 28, 2020. This document also adds to the Quick Reference Public Health Guidance on Testing and Clearance. This information is current as of June 2, 2020 and may be updated as the situation on COVID-19 continues to evolve. The following updated testing guidance should be used as appropriate.

It is expected that this guidance will be consistently applied across all regions in Ontario to help guide decision making regarding COVID-19 testing of further priority

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_covid_testing_guidance.pdf

QUESTIONS ON TESTING

Asymptomatic close contacts are to be tested

- Remembering that the test represents one point in time, so self-isolation must still be followed (rationale for testing is to see if they were a source and/or if the disease has spread, early recognition)

Pre-test probability is important

- Exact sensitivity and specificity of lab test not definitively known

In general, do not re-test known positives

The background is a solid teal color with several overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes in various shades of teal, creating a layered, abstract effect. The shapes include large circles and triangles that intersect to form a complex, modern design.

WHAT HAS CHANGED WITH REGARDS TO CASE AND CONTACT FOLLOW UP

MANAGING ASYMPTOMATIC POSITIVE CASES

- We continue to see more asymptomatic positive cases with ‘mass testing’
- Approach to these cases has changed
 - Requesting a CT value from the lab in the context of a low pre-test probability
 - Re-testing is important
 - Contact management and isolation may stop if 2nd test is negative
 - We rely on our health care providers for a clear and thorough history of symptoms and sharing your clinical judgement

QUESTIONS ON CASE AND CONTACT MANAGEMENT

- Why a 14 day isolation period?
- What if someone has one negative test, can they return to work?
 - Clearance guidance has changed over time
 - Testing is for the most part NOT required for return to work (with a few exceptions)
 - Refer to the [COVID-19 Quick Reference Public Health Guidance on Testing and Clearance](#)

The background is a solid teal color with several overlapping, semi-transparent shapes in a darker shade of teal. These shapes include a large circle on the left, a large circle on the right, and a large triangle in the center, all overlapping each other and the background.

WHAT IS GOING ON WITH SCHOOL RE-OPENING?

SCHOOL RE-OPENING

- Ontario's Ministry of Education has asked school boards to develop three separate plans for a return in the coming school year
- The province has said it will decide which model to go ahead with in early August, but the prospect of homeschooling has many parents worried
- Public Health is currently working with school boards in York Region to provide guidance on infection, prevention and control
- Risks of COVID-19 have to be balanced with the benefits of returning to school

The background is a solid teal color with several overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes in various shades of teal. These shapes include large circles and triangles, creating a layered, abstract effect. The text is centered horizontally and vertically over this background.

WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING WITH RE-OPENING?

SOME PARTS OF THE PROVINCE ARE MOVING TO STAGE 3

- As of Friday July 17th, some parts of the province (24 of 34 health units) will move to Stage 3
- Many remaining businesses and public spaces will reopen
- Some higher risk activities and places will remain closed (e.g., amusement parks, dancing at bars, overnight camps, etc.)
- Gathering limits will increase (with physical distancing in place)
 - 50 people for indoor gatherings
 - 100 people for outdoor gatherings

WHAT IS THE GUIDANCE FOR RE-OPENING HEALTH CARE?

- Healthcare providers must comply with the requirements as set out in [Directive #2](#) as well as the [COVID-19 Operational Requirements: Health Sector Restart](#) guidance including implementing a hierarchy of hazard controls and redesigning your practice structure to follow public health guidance
- Other guidance documents include:
 - [COVID-19 Guidance: Primary Care Providers in a Community Settings \(Ministry of Health\)](#)
 - [Infection Prevention and Control for Clinical Office Practice \(Public Health Ontario\)](#)

The background is a solid teal color with several overlapping, semi-transparent shapes in various shades of teal. These shapes include large circles and triangles, creating a layered, geometric effect. The text is centered horizontally and vertically within the teal area.

SOME IMPORTANT RESOURCES

LINKS TO BOOKMARK

- **York Region's webpage**

- york.ca/healthprofessionals → is a health care provider specific page
- york.ca/covid19data → our York Region data dashboard

- **Public Health Ontario's COVID-19 page**

- <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/novel-coronavirus> → evidence briefs, synopsis of key articles, etc.

- **Ministry of Health's webpage for health care providers, specifically**

- http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/2019_guidance.aspx#symptoms

REMINDER: HEALTH CARE PROVIDER PHONE & WEB RESOURCES

- If you have any questions, call the dedicated health professional COVID-19 line at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 77280 (8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., seven days a week)
- After hours call 905-953-6478
- Visit:
 - [York.ca/healthprofessionals](https://york.ca/healthprofessionals)
 - [York.ca/covid19](https://york.ca/covid19)
 - [Ontario.ca/covid19](https://ontario.ca/covid19)

The background is a solid teal color with several overlapping, semi-transparent shapes in various shades of teal. These shapes include large circles and triangles, creating a layered, geometric effect. The text is centered horizontally and vertically within the teal area.

YOUR FEEDBACK IS REQUESTED

QUESTIONS FOR THE AUDIENCE TO INFORM OUR ENGAGEMENT

1. On a scale of 1/10 how useful was this webinar to you (e.g. provided good information, learnt something new)
2. How often would you like us to put something like this together (resources permitting) (e.g. once a month, once a week, every quarter, etc.)?
3. What would you like covered (any topics/questions we missed)?
4. Any feedback on length of this and time (i.e., is 30-45 min over the lunch hour good, or any alternate suggestions)?

THANK YOU

Remember to sign up to [Public Health Matters](#) for:

- Today's slides
- Follow up FAQs and
- Future webinar information

