



Training Staff in Clinic Office Settings

Education and training of staff is required for all individuals in clinical office settings to ensure both worker and patient safety.

The first step in choosing the appropriate education, training and certification requirements for staff is to determine what activities are being performed in the clinical office setting. Cleaning and disinfection are routinely required in all clinical office settings. Reprocessing of equipment using high level disinfection (HLD) or sterilization will be required in many settings. Staff responsible for cleaning and reprocessing should be trained to a level that is required for the volume and complexity of the equipment to be reprocessed.

Reusable medical equipment must be cleanable and be able to be disinfected or sterilized as appropriate for the equipment. This may not be cost-effective or timely for small establishments, and other options should be considered. The amount and frequency of equipment use should guide whether reprocessing is feasible or whether disposable equipment is more cost-effective.

An organizational risk assessment should be conducted to determine what education, training, and certification is recommended for staff in each clinical office setting. Note that there are also distinct responsibilities that apply to the physician under the Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHS) in their separate roles as employer, supervisor, and worker.

Online competency modules are available, including a Public Health Ontario (PHO) competency program designed for a typical office practice setting, such as community-based family physician or specialist where only minor procedures would be performed.

Out-patient surgical centres (usually Out-of-Hospital Premises (OHPs)), performing more complex procedures, often under general anaesthesia, require more in-depth education, training and certification.

Visit **Public Health Ontario** for more information on:

- [Checklist for Reprocessing](#)
- [Reprocessing Endoscopy Equipment](#)
- [Recommendations for Education, Training and Certification for Reprocessing in Clinic Office Settings](#)
- [Infection Prevention and Control for Clinical Office Practice](#)

View the **FYI Newsletter** online at www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca under For Professionals | Health Professionals | FYI Newsletter

Breastfeeding Support Appointments

NEW!

Peterborough Public Health is excited to announce that we are expanding our breastfeeding support services. We are now providing face-to-face breastfeeding assessment, consultation and support at our new location at 185 King Street, Peterborough. This new service will complement our existing breastfeeding supports which include prenatal education, postpartum follow up, in-home support for Healthy Babies Healthy Children clients, and telephone consultations on our Family HEALTHline.

A breastfeeding assessment will consist of a mother/ baby breastfeeding history, observation of a feed, and guidance to overcome common breastfeeding challenges such as: engorgement, concerns about milk supply, and pain or discomfort during position and latch. This service will be provided by Public Health Nurses with additional training and education in breastfeeding.



Face-to-face appointments for breastfeeding clients will be provided Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Mothers are asked to book appointments by calling the main telephone number at 705-743-1000.

*Please note that we do not have weigh scales on site and will not be providing check-up nor pre-post feed weights.

A complete list of local breastfeeding supports can be found at Breastfeeding Help Peterborough.

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Tuberculin Skin Testing

When is a Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) indicated?

In general, testing for latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) is indicated when there is a risk of development of active tuberculosis (TB) and the client would therefore benefit from treatment of LTBI. Only those who would benefit from treatment should be tested, so a decision to test presupposes a decision to treat if the test is positive. This means that screening for LTBI in people or groups who are healthy and at low risk of active disease development is discouraged, since the positive predictive value of TST is low and the risks of treatment will often outweigh the potential benefits.

Do NOT test those with:

- A previous documented positive TST
- A severe reaction to a TST in the past
- Documented active TB or well documented history of adequate treatment for TB infection or disease in the past (no clinical utility)
- A current major viral infection with a fever (i.e. varicella or measles)
- A live immunization received in the last 4 weeks (i.e. MMR, Varicella)
- Suspect active TB

What do the results mean?

A TST must be read by a trained professional 48-72 hours after administration. A palpable, raised, hardened area of induration must be measured in millimeters and documented. Redness around the site is not measured.

A positive test (greater than 5mm or greater than 10mm, dependent on client risk factors) always requires medical evaluation to rule out active disease.

To interpret results of a TST, refer to table two of the *Canadian TB Standards*, Chapter 4, page 13.

When do I conduct a two-step TST?

A two-step should be performed if subsequent TSTs will be conducted at regular intervals or after an exposure to a TB case (i.e. Health care workers, correctional service workers). This is to reduce the chance of a false positive TST conversion when the TST is repeated.

When do I contact public health?

For clients with a positive TST, please fax the completed "Report of Positive Mantoux Test" form to 705-743-2897.

For further information:

- *Canadian TB Standards, 7th Edition, Chapters 4 and 6*
- *The IGRA/TST online interpreter*
- *BCG World Atlas*



Lyme Disease: Keeping it Top of Mind

Read the current blog on Lyme disease from Dr. Sarah-Lynn Newbery, President of the Ontario College of Family Physicians. She provides a succinct overview of the current clinical guidelines for Lyme disease including prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. Click here for her blog, or find it online at www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca under [For Professionals | Health Professionals | Vector Borne Disease](#) on the right sidebar.



Ebola Virus Directives No Longer in Effect in Ontario

The World Health Organization recently declared the end of the Public Health Emergency of International Concern for the Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreak in West Africa.

New EVD cases are still being reported in West Africa. Ontario's health system may encounter patients who have recovered from EVD and who carry the virus. An updated EVD Outbreak Case Definition has been posted on Ontario.ca/ebola.

However, the risk posed to Ontarians from Ebola virus disease remains very low. As a result, all Ebola virus disease directives are no longer in effect as of August 2, 2016.

Ontario's response to the EVD outbreak strengthened the readiness of our health system to respond to an infectious disease event. We identified gaps, and addressed opportunities to strengthen overall system readiness.

In a globalized world, and with the pressures of climate change, the threat of new and emerging infectious diseases that could impact Ontario is increasing. As a result, the *Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Building a Ready and Resilient Health System, Ebola Step-Down and Provincial Baseline Requirements for Infectious Disease Threats* document was released. This plan builds on the actions taken to enhance the province's readiness for EVD. It identifies new baseline requirements for Ontario's health system. These requirements, and the next two phases of this work, will help ensure that the health system is ready to respond to infectious disease threats. The plan and more information can be found on the Ministry website.

Public Health Ontario has also released *Guidance for Patients with Suspect or Confirmed Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers (VHF) in Acute Care Settings and Management of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Survivors in Ontario*. These documents will help all health partners prepare for VHF diseases, including EVD. Both documents can be accessed on Public Health Ontario's website.

Health system partners can contact the ministry's Emergency Management Branch by email at emergencymanagement.moh@ontario.ca or phone 416-212-0822 with questions regarding this communication.

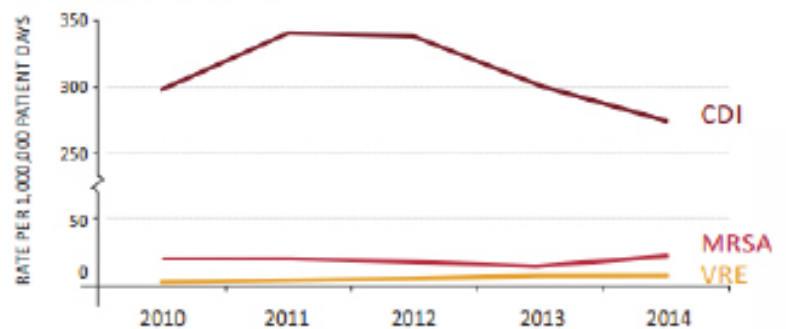
Health Care-Associated Infections (HAIs)

Public Health Ontario has created an interesting series of infographics on public health topics, including this one on HAIs. For the full document, please visit www.publichealthontario.ca and search for this topic under "Ontario Health Profile".

BREAKING DOWN THE NUMBERS




Ontario hospitals report cases of CDI and bloodstream infections caused by MRSA and VRE. These rates provide a strong indicator of overall trends, even if they are a small per cent of the total number of health care-associated infections. Throughout the 1990s and 2000s, cases of MRSA in hospitals increased sharply, CDI became a greater concern and VRE emerged as a new threat to patient safety.⁴ Thanks in part to infection prevention and control efforts, reported rates of these infections have been relatively stable over the last five years.⁵

Annual rates of HAIs in hospitals⁵



In the past five years, CDI outbreak control in Ontario hospitals has improved patient safety, leading to better patient outcomes. There has been a decrease in the total number of outbreaks each year, the number patients involved in each outbreak and the mortality during outbreaks.

CDI outbreaks in hospitals⁶

	2010	2014
# OF OUTBREAKS 	26	19
AVG. # OF CASES PER OUTBREAK 	22	7
% ALL-CAUSE MORTALITY 	26%	17%

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Stop Health Care-Associated Infections. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2014.

Resources For HCPs



NutriSTEP

NutriSTEP® www.nutristep.ca is a valid and reliable questionnaire to assess eating habits and identify nutrition problems of toddlers (18-35 months) and preschoolers (3-5 years). Integrating NutriSTEP® into the primary care setting helps facilitate early identification of potential nutrition problems, parent nutrition education, and parental referral to community resources.

Contact Peterborough Public Health by calling 705-743-1000, ext. 361 for more information on obtaining copies of NutriSTEP® for your primary care practice.

Health Events For Patients

Monthly Quit Smoking Workshops

Interest in quitting smoking remains high with two-thirds of residents who smoke in Peterborough reporting intentions to quit in the next six months. Multiple quit attempts are a normal and necessary part of quitting smoking for good.

Peterborough Public Health is providing quit smoking workshops on the third Wednesday of each month beginning in September. Workshops are cost-free and include a group education session and five weeks of nicotine replacement therapy patches.

This STOP Program is led by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) in partnership with Peterborough Public Health.

Anyone interested can call 705-743-1000 for more information and to register.

Choose to be...Smoke Free

Peterborough Public Health in partnership with the Partners in Pregnancy Clinic will be providing a smoking cessation group for women of reproductive age who are preparing to quit smoking or who have recently quit. Free nicotine replacement therapy and a weekly \$10 gift card will be provided. Help with transportation and childcare is available.

Next group starts: Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Women who would like more information or to register for our next smoking cessation group can call 705-743-1000, ext. 254.

Health Events For Patients

Prenatal Classes for Patients

Our classes will prepare you for the challenges of birth, caring for your baby, and becoming a parent. You'll gain confidence as you explore up-to-date information, practice new skills, share ideas, and connect with other expectant parents in a friendly and supportive environment.

You'll learn about:

- Caring for your newborn
- Breastfeeding your baby
- Your baby's birth
- Comfort measures for labour (Lamaze)
- Medical management of pain and other interventions
- Changes and challenges of becoming parents
- Classes are led by experienced and enthusiastic Registered Nurses who are committed to supporting you with information you can trust to make informed choices for you and your family.

Date: Classes are offered in two different formats with the class content the same for both options:

- a week night series of five classes that run from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. and
- a weekend series of two consecutive Saturdays that run from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Place: Peterborough Public Health
Jackson Square, 185 King Street, Peterborough

Fee: \$50.00. This includes the book *Baby's Best Chance* and other resources.

Please let us know if the fee would prevent you from attending, as subsidies are available.

To register or for more information, call or email the Peterborough Public Health
705-743-1000, ext. 254 or 282 or
info@peterboroughpublichealth.ca

Hospital Tour: To book a tour of the Peterborough Regional Health Centre's Labour and Delivery area, please call 705-876-5017.





Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH): Transforming Indigenous Lives in Guatemala

Join us to learn how this project will contribute to bettering the lives of women, children and their families, and how you can participate in knowledge-exchange visits between Canada and Guatemala

Tuesday, September 20
5:30pm to 6:30pm

Chemong Lake Room
Peterborough Public Health
185 King Street, Peterborough, ON

RSVP & More Info:

rscorza@horizons.ca 905-372-5483 ext. 24

Light Refreshments Provided



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