

Staying safe in the community during fall and winter – Checklist for Patients

Please use the following checklist to ensure that you are prepared to manage your health and know where to get care during fall, winter and holiday periods.

☐		Reduce your risk of spreading infection. Along with handwashing and staying home when you are sick, getting your COVID-19 and flu vaccinations is a good way to protect yourself and others. Everyone over the age of 6 months is eligible. Make an appointment at your doctor's office or local pharmacy.
☐		Schedule any needed medical appointments before holiday periods. Many offices will be closed or have shorter hours so make sure your appointments are booked early. Call two weeks in advance to confirm their business hours.
☐		Make sure you have enough prescription and non-prescription medications for you and your family during holiday periods. Pharmacists can prescribe medications for common illnesses (like hay fever, sprains, strains and pink eye). Visit www.CentralWestHealthline.ca and search " Pharmacies ." Remember, some pharmacies have shorter business hours.
☐		Stock up on medical supplies. Make sure you have a two-week supply of inhalers, oxygen, needles, glucose testing or any other equipment you will need during holiday periods.
☐		Update your list of emergency telephone numbers and post them in a visible place, like on the fridge. Don't forget to add Health811 (previously Telehealth Ontario) at 811 or health811.ontario.ca for free, confidential 24-hour access to a registered nurse to help with health-related questions.
☐		Know your health care options. Look for care at a doctor's office (call your doctor to make an appointment), walk-in clinic or urgent care centre (often without an appointment). To find local clinics, visit www.CentralWestHealthline.ca and search " Walk-In Medical Clinics " or " Urgent Care Centres ."
☐		If you have severe chest pain, stroke symptoms or <u>another medical emergency</u>, call 911 or go to the nearest Emergency Department.
☐		Connect with other doctor services. If you are unable to visit a doctor's office, you can receive in-home, phone, or virtual primary care services: • Medvisit/National Home Doctor Service (416-631-3000 or www.medvisit.ca) • Doctors House Call Service – Concierge Medicine (905-517-8889) • Regional Virtual Urgent Care Program (regional-virtual-urgent-care.ca) Visit www.CentralWestHealthline.ca and search "In-Home Doctor Services" to find other in-home doctor services.

☐		It is helpful to know where to go to for diagnostic testing or lab work. The clinics provide services like X-rays, ultrasound or collecting samples for analysis. Visit www.CentralWestHealthline.ca and search “ Diagnostic Imaging Clinics ” or “ Medical Laboratories .”
☐		Focus on your mental health. Visit www.CentralWestHealthline.ca and search “ Mental Health ” or “ Mental Health Crisis Lines .” You can also call crisis and helplines for free and 24/7 support: • ConnexOntario Helpline (1-866-531-2600) • 24.7 Crisis Support Peel Dufferin (905-278-9036) • Gerstein Centre Crisis Line (416-929-5200) • Kids Help Phone (1-800-668-6868 or text 686868) for children and youth ages 5 to 20 through phone, text and online resources • Hope for Wellness Helpline (1-855-242-3310) for Indigenous people • Talk 4 Healing (1-855-554-4325) helping Indigenous women with supports and resources
☐		Visit Central West Healthline (www.CentralWestHealthline.ca) to learn about local health and community services. For example, search “Exercise and Falls Prevention Programs” to find resources to help seniors stay safe, healthy and how to prevent falls.

My personal health care options

My care coordinator _____  _____  _____	My pharmacy _____  _____ Home Delivery? _____
My doctor _____  _____  _____	My grocery store _____  _____ Hours _____
Local meal services _____  _____ Home Delivery? _____	Local snow removal _____  _____
Other important Contact Numbers • Home and Community Care Support Services Central West: 310-2222 • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____	