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Subject: Important Revision to Ministry of Health Directive #2 - Health Sector Gradual Restart of Deferred Services



College of Audiologists and
Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario
Ordre des audiologistes et
des orthophonistes de l'Ontario

May 27, 2020

To: All CASLPO Registrants (*Please share with CASLPO Colleagues*)

The Chief Medical Officer of Ontario, Dr. David Williams, has released a revised version of [Directive #2 on May 26, 2020](#), revoking the original Directive #2 issued on March 19, 2020. This revised Directive #2 supports the **gradual restart of all deferred and non-essential and elective services** carried out by Health Care Providers (HCP).

Please review the revised [Directive #2 - May 26](#) in detail, which outlines specific requirements, including adherence to the ["COVID-19 Operational Requirements: Health Sector Restart"](#).

The Operational Requirements document provides more detail regarding the steps which must be taken before reopening and resuming non-essential services, and includes the following:

- Conduct initial consultations with your patients through virtual/telephone contact and determine if an in-person appointment is necessary
- Limit the number of in-person visits for the safety of all
- Service resumption decisions must be guided by the four foundational principles outlined in Directive #2 (proportionality, minimizing harm to patients, equity and reciprocity)
- Conduct both organizational and point of care risk assessments
- Apply the recommended Hierarchy of Hazard Controls
- Follow the screening and testing recommendations
- Ensure you have the physical capacity and environment for physical distancing, waste management, hand hygiene, signage, etc.
- Source sufficient Personal Protective Equipment
- Ensure safe and appropriate human resources are in place

- Put in place fulsome Infection Prevention and Control policies and procedures

You must always use your individual clinical judgement, while complying with Directives from the Ministry of Health, information from Public Health Ontario and speak with your employers. CASLPO has provided additional guidance through our "[Pandemic Practice Advice Topics](#)" (revised May 26th) to assist you. This includes a new addition, Sound Booth Cleaning.

Please share the revised Directive #2 and the "COVID-19 Operational Requirements: Health Sector Restart" documents with your employer and your co-workers and work together to meet these requirements prior to opening.

As we work together in addressing COVID-19, we are here to help you.

If you have questions, please contact us at: [Practice Advice Team](#)

Stay Safe. Stay Healthy!

Brian O'Riordan
Registrar

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