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**Subject:** Safety of Patients and all Health Care Providers - Guidance - Long-Term Care Homes



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

April 16, 2020

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

Information on COVID-19 suggests older adults with underlying health conditions are at increased risk of severe outcomes. Therefore, early identification of cases associated with LTCH and rapid implementation of outbreak control measures are essential to preventing spread within the home.

Please review the [COVID-19 Guidance for Long-Term Care Homes \(LTCH\)](#) focussing on "Managing Essential Visitors" (page 6) and the updated requirements.

To maintain the safety of patients and all health care providers including speech-language pathologists and audiologists, we want to emphasize that you should only be providing essential services to patients in long-term care.

Essential service - "Any care that is required to immediately prevent a patient's health or function from significantly declining if treatment is not provided." ([Essential and Non-Essential Services](#))

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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