

From: CASLPO <caslpo@caslpo.com>
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Subject: COVID-19 Response Update



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

March 17, 2020

To: All CASLPO Registrants

Today, the Government of Ontario has declared a Provincial Emergency. This allows the government to use "every power possible to continue to protect the health and safety of all individuals and families."

In accordance with the College's mandate to act in the public interest, and in response to the needs of patients and registrants, CASLPO strongly recommends registrants suspend services if:

1. They are non-emergent or,
2. The federal or provincial governments indicate that you must do so.

If you must provide services, we strongly recommend you institute the following practices:

1. Pre-arrival screening to ensure your patients are not exhibiting signs of illness
2. Reduce the number of patients (or family) gathering in the waiting room
3. Remove reading materials and toys from the waiting area
4. Provide hand sanitation and masks
5. Increase cleaning of all surfaces
6. Use personal protective equipment in accordance with the Ontario Public Health March 12, 2020 technical brief:

["Updated IPAC Recommendations for Use of Personal Protective Equipment for Care of Individuals with Suspect or Confirmed COVID-19"](#)

7. Consider using virtual interventions, where feasible (please review the [Position Statement on Use of Telepractice Approaches](#))

CASLPO's website (caslpo.com) contains the most essential links. Further, the new "[General Standards; Infection Prevention and Control](#)" provide

additional links and it is expected that you remain current by reviewing the document and the associated websites contained within.

All College practice standards remain in place.

The College will be operating virtually beginning tomorrow, March 18, 2020, until further notice. All College services will continue to be provided, but adjustments in service delivery may be required depending on circumstances. Meetings of the College Council and its committees will be held virtually until further notice. The volume of practice advice enquiries is large, so we ask for your understanding in this regard.

Above all, please take needed precautions to remain safe and healthy during the current coronavirus crisis.

Thank you for your extraordinary work during these very challenging times.

Please contact us at caslpo@caslpo.com or the [Practice Advice Team](#) if you have questions.

Brian O'Riordan
Registrar

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