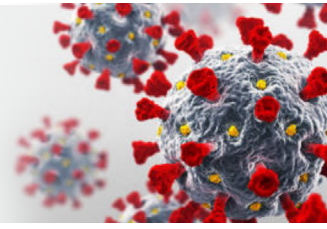


# COVID-19 PANDEMIC ADVOCACY UPDATE ON STATUS AND ACTION

(SEPTEMBER 30, 2020)



Recognizing the challenges that home and community care providers are facing during this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, the CHCA is working with our membership to engage the federal, provincial and territorial governments on priority issues.

## INFORMATION & RESOURCES

We have expanded our online [COVID-19 resource centre](#) to include more information for patients and caregivers, including:

- an evidence-informed guidance document to support access to long-term care homes for family caregivers and visitors during the COVID-19 pandemic (National Institute on Ageing)
- advice for caring for someone with COVID-19 at home (Public Health Agency of Canada)
- a COVID caregiver back-up plan to help keep track of important information and tasks (McMaster University/Health Canada/ Government of Ontario)

## ADVOCACY & SYSTEM CHANGE

The CHCA is recommending immediate and long-term actions to support vulnerable populations with long-term care needs. Recognizing that long-term care services can be provided in facilities and in a person's residence (i.e., home), the CHCA is focusing on the key actions required to strengthen home-based long-term care.

### Immediate actions: COVID-19 preparation and response for home-based long-term care services

- Ring-fence Canada Health Transfer funding for home-based long-term care.
  - Provide more home-based long-term care as a safe and effective alternative to facility-based care.
- Facilitate priority access to personal protective equipment and user guides.
  - Improve access to and use of appropriate PPE for providers and caregivers.
- Share leading practices used to manage human resources through COVID-19 wave 1.
  - Redeploy staff, recruit and train staff, and communicate with staff.
- Streamline access to home-based palliative care medications.
  - Convene a panel to evaluate the impact of the NAPRA (National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities) standards for compounding and managing drugs on patients receiving care in their homes

Access the complete  
advocacy messages:  
Supporting Vulnerable  
Populations through  
COVID-19 and Beyond ▶

## RECOGNITION OF HOME HEALTH CARE AS AN ESSENTIAL SERVICE

On October 1, 2020, National Seniors Day, the CHCA is profiling the experiences of health care providers as they care and support seniors through the COVID-19 pandemic. The campaign profiles a range of health care workers who are using their clinical experience and expertise to provide care in the home setting for over 3 million Canadians, including 1.2 million frail seniors. As the pandemic evolves, providing health care in the home setting is a proactive strategy that can help mitigate and control the spread and impact of COVID-19.

Learn more about how home care is an essential service in the [fight against COVID-19](#).

## SUPPORTING OUR MEMBERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

As your national voice for home and community care, the CHCA:

1. advocates for immediate and long-term actions for home-based long-term care;
2. works with members to increase workforce resiliency during these challenging time; and
3. partners with caregivers to support their vital role as partners in care.

### ABOUT THE CANADIAN HOME CARE ASSOCIATION

#### Working together to strengthen integrated home and community-based care

The Canadian Home Care Association (CHCA) is a national non-profit membership association dedicated to advancing excellence in home and community care. Through our diverse membership base, the CHCA represents public and private organizations who fund, manage and provide services and products in the home and community sector. Our vision is an integrated health and social care system that provides seamless patient- and family-centred care that is accessible, accountable, evidence-informed and sustainable. [www.cdnhomecare.ca](http://www.cdnhomecare.ca) @CdnHomeCare