

COVID-19 SCREENING TOOL FOR HOMELESSNESS SERVICE SETTINGS

Shelter, Support and Housing Administration
Based on Ontario Public Health Criteria
Current as of April 22, 2020

ALL clients should be screened using this tool on arrival. Existing clients should also be actively screened on a regular basis. Clients should not be restricted from service if they decline to participate in screening but should be isolated where possible. While conducting the screening **maintain a distance of 2 metres between yourself and the client**, and remain behind a plexiglass barrier where possible.

If the client is having difficulty breathing or experiencing other severe symptoms, call 9-1-1.

STEP 1 – COMPLETE COVID-19 SCREENING TOOL WITH YOUR CLIENT

COVID-19 SCREENING TOOL FOR HOMELESSNESS SERVICE PROVIDERS			
Is the client currently homeless (i.e. staying in a shelter, 24-hour respite site, 24-hour women's drop-in or sleeping outdoors)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Ask the Client:			
(A) Do you have any of the following symptoms: fever (higher than 38°C), new cough or change in cough, difficulty breathing? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The above symptoms may be accompanied by muscle aches, chills, fatigue, headache, sore throat, runny nose or diarrhea. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
IF YES to (a): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASK CLIENT TO SANITIZE HANDS & PUT ON A MASK HOMELESS CLIENTS SHOULD BE CLINICALLY ASSESSED FOR COVID-19 If there is no plexiglass barrier and close contact (less than 2 metres) with the client is anticipated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SANITIZE YOUR HANDS AND PUT ON APPROPRIATE PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (AT A MINIMUM A MASK AND GLOVES) 			
(B) Do you have <u>any</u> of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traveled out of country in last 14 days Close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 Are 65 years or over Underlying health condition(s). Including: cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic lung disease, cerebrovascular disease (e.g. previous stroke), cancer, immunosuppression 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
If client is not experiencing homelessness, but YES to (a) and (b), CALL TELEHEALTH ONTARIO AT 1-866-797-0000 FOR PHONE ASSESSMENT			

REFERRAL INFORMATION (COMPLETE IF CLIENT IS HOMELESS & SCREENS 'YES' FOR COVID-19 TESTING)			
Client Name:	Client has pets?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
SMIS ID (if applicable):	Client has medication?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Location:	Referring Staff:	Contact Phone #:	
Other relevant information (E.g. Supports required such as mental health support or substance use supports)			

Date: _____

Time: _____

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STEP 2 – ASSESS CLIENT RESPONSES

Based on client responses to the above questions, do the following:

Client needs a clinical assessment

If client responded 'Yes' to (a) presenting symptoms and is experiencing homelessness:

- Client should be clinically assessed for COVID-19 at a Toronto Region COVID-19 Assessment Centre (or Emergency Department if after hours).
- If available, direct the client to an isolation room or space if your site has one while awaiting transportation for COVID-19 assessment. Practice physical distancing. Keep the client two (2) meters from other individuals and ask them to wear a mask, if available.
- Immediately disinfect any surfaces touched by the client including door handles with Cavicide® or a hospital grade disinfectant while wearing gloves. If any other clients touched the surfaces after the client they should be asked to disinfect their hands. Encourage all clients to clean their hands regularly.
- Clients should only stay in shelter overnight to await transfer to a testing centre if an isolation space is available on-site.

Client self-isolation required

If client responded 'No' to (a) presenting symptoms and 'Yes' to (b) other risk factors:

- Contact telehealth or do Ontario's online assessment tool, if they advise the client should be clinically assessed for COVID-19, direct them to a Toronto Region COVID-19 Assessment Centre (or Emergency Department if after hours).
- If client is not recommended for testing and has other risk factors including out of country travel, client should self-isolate in a separate room or space where possible.
- If a client has had exposure to someone who tested positive for COVID-19, TPH will provide advice on next steps and who should go for testing through the investigation and contact tracing process.
- If client cannot self-isolate on site, please contact SSHA DOC at sshadoc@toronto.ca and continue to monitor for symptoms.
- If client is housed, ask client to self-isolate at home.
- If client **ONLY** has underlying health condition(s) of concern and has not traveled/been exposed to COVID-19, remind client of physical distancing practices. Self-isolation is not necessary.

Continue providing normal service delivery

If client responded 'No' to (a) presenting symptoms and (b) other risk factors:

- No special testing is required. Disinfect hands; remind the client of physical distancing practices.
- Please follow Toronto Public Health's guidelines on [Infection Prevention and Control \(IPAC\) for Homelessness Service Settings](#).

If the client is interested in more information. Refer to the [Public Health Ontario](#) website for general referral information or contact Telehealth 1-866-797-0000.

IF CLIENT IS REFERRED FOR CLINICAL ASSESSMENT FOR COVID-19:

Arrange for transport of client to the closest [Toronto Region COVID-19 Assessment Centre](#) (Check website for any updates to locations and hours).

For homeless clients, please refer to Instructions for Arranging Non-Emergency Transportation & send this form as an email attachment (scan or .jpg) to sshadoc@toronto.ca for tracking purposes. Please title your email "REQUESTING NON-EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION TO COVID-19 ASSESSMENT CENTRE".

If client is not currently homeless, please help to offer transportation supports to an Assessment Centre. If the individual is not well enough to personally transport themselves to an assessment centre, then 911 should be called.