Protecting Patients and Physicians during the Pandemic

The Covid-19 Pivot

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Disclosure of Financial Support

Faculty/Speaker: Allison McGeer

Relationship with financial sponsors:

➢ Honoraria advisory boards: Sanofi Pasteur, GSK, Pfizer

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Faculty/Speaker: Jennifer Young

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Faculty/Speaker: Allan Grill

Relationship with financial sponsors:

➢ Physician Advisor for the College of Family Physicians of Canada.

➢ Chief of Family Medicine, Markham Stouffville Hospital

➢ Primary Care Provincial Medical Lead for CCO – Ontario Renal Network

➢ Member of the Canadian Drug Expert Committee for the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

➢ Speaker for the 2019 Annual Scientific Assembly, OCFP

➢ Member of the Scientific Planning Committee, Ontario Lung Association
Mitigating Potential Bias

This program has not received financial or in-kind support.

The questions posed in today’s webinar were developed by staff from the CFPC.

Recommendations are based on the evolving evidence and situation with the COVID-19 pandemic.
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Learning Objectives

After this webinar presentation, the participant will be able to:

1. Identify patient populations that warrant in-person office assessments during the pandemic
2. Describe viral transmission of COVID-19
3. Describe strategies to protect patients and staff using personal protective equipment and by modifying office practices
How can office practice be adjusted to minimize risk during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Waiting Room Considerations
- Virtual visits! (Covered in last week’s webinar)
- Have patients wait in cars until their appointment
- Put patients directly into rooms – avoid the waiting room area
- If in waiting room, keep patient number low (min 2 meters apart)
- Getting rid of anything in the waiting/exam rooms people can touch (magazines, toys, etc)
- Minimize chairs. Even in exam rooms since pts are being seen in-person primarily for a physical exam.

Front Desk considerations
- Plexiglass barriers for receptionists
- Tape on floor – how far to stand.
- All appt request need a phone call from MD first to confirm face-to-face needed.
- Provide masks to patients (but supply is down) and lots of hand sanitizer / hand wash facilities.
- No food in any rooms.

Clinic considerations
- Wash hands before & after every patient regardless of whether there was physical contact.
- Alternate the number of doctors in clinic to minimize staff/patients coming in
- Intense cleaning between patients (or for example, q2h minimum)
- Break up patient visits with phone calls
- Identifying tasks that physicians may be able to do from home (phone calls, lab checks, insurance forms, rx renewals, video visits)
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**Practical Talks for Family Docs**

April 9, 2020 at 12 p.m. (ET):

*The COVID-19 Pivot: The Clinical Presentation of COVID-19 Infections*

April 15, 2020 at 12 p.m. (ET):

*The COVID-19 Pivot: Adapting Family Practice to Virtual Care (French only)*

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