



The College's COVID-19 Response

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January 2020

- College takes part in regular (now daily) stakeholder calls with Ontario Ministry of Health (MOH)
- **2 COVID-19 eblasts** with information and resources sent to OTs on January 27 & 30

- **Launch dedicated COVID-19 webpage**
- College and HPRO campaigns postponed
- **1 COVID-19 eblast** sent February 14

February 2020

March 2020

- **College extends annual renewal deadline to August 31**
- Practice develops FAQ for the College's COVID-19 webpage
- **Office goes virtual and provides College services remotely**
- College recommends OTs suspend all non-essential services on March 17. CMOH Directive 2 follows on March 19
- Registration works with MOH to issue temporary registration to support recruitment of HCP to help fight COVID-19
- College conducts virtual Council and Committee meetings
- **College launches annual renewal on March 30, 2020**
- **7 COVID-19 eblasts** sent to OTs on March 12, 17, 19, 20, 24, 25 and 30

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April 2020

- College releases *Guidance on Occupational Therapy Services During COVID-19*
- Reallocation of office resources: QA team moved to Practice temporarily to support high volume of calls and emails
- Registrar records video message on social media thanking OTs for their adaptability and dedication during the pandemic
- College **exempts all occupational therapists from completing the 2019 Professional Development (PD) Plan**
- Practice records “Conversations with the College” [webinar](#) on COVID-19 and occupational therapy (*1500+ views to date*)
- Help promote new Ontario Health Workforce Matching Portal
- **5 COVID-19 eblasts** sent to OTs on April 1, 7, 8, 16 and 19

- Participation in **Citizen Advisory Group** focus group on reopening – a partnership across Colleges to ensure patient voice informed guidance
- College gives OTs option of paying for renewal in monthly installments this year
- **Extended 2020 Self-Assessment and PREP due date to December 31, 2020**
- College shares UHN-developed *COVID Care Learning* resource with OTs
- **4 COVID-19 eblasts** sent to OTs on May 6, 15, & 27

May 2020

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June 2020

- Collaboration with rehabilitation colleges to develop reopening guidance
- College releases *COVID-19 Return to Work Guidance for Occupational Therapists* after province begins to reopen and Directive 2 was revoked and replaced
- Practice records “Conversations with the College” [webinar](#) on “Gradual Reopening” to guide OTs as health services ramp up (*1,000+ views to date*)
- **Release 2020 QA tools with preface about COVID-19 for the PREP on “Managing Risks in Occupational Therapy Practice”**
- Preparing for reopening webinar on June 22: a collaborative initiative with rehab colleges and **Public Health Ontario** on Infection Prevention and Control
- **2 COVID-19 eblasts** sent to OTs in June so far



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Ongoing work and other activities

- Policy review government directives
- Updates to College pandemic plan – incorporating lessons learned and new guidance
- Leveraging social media to share College communications, resources and information
 - Also sharing information and resources from governments and public health
- Practice Resource Service providing support and guidance
 - **Practice has received more than 500 inquiries related to COVID-19 during this time**
- Collaborative work with other regulators to address and clarify issues, such as reopening guidance and PPE
- Updating our COVID-19 page (coto.org/covid19) – adding new FAQ, information and resources
 - Website traffic to COVID-19 page from February to May 2020: 23,000+ page views and 17,000+ unique views