

November 4, 2020 Update

SUBJECT: COVID-19 update: New framework and practice reminders



New Framework

In an announcement yesterday, November 3, 2020, and in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and other health experts, the Ontario government released the [Keeping Ontario Safe and Open Framework](#). The intent of this new framework is to ensure public health measures are targeted, incremental and responsive to help limit the spread of COVID-19, while keeping schools and businesses open, maintaining health system capacity and protecting vulnerable people, including those in long-term care.

The framework takes an incremental approach with early preventive measures to help avoid broader closures and allow for additional public health and workplace safety measures to be introduced or removed gradually. Each level outlines the types of public health and workplace safety measures for businesses and organizations. These include targeted measures for specific sectors, institutions and other settings. You can view the full press release and details of the new framework [here](#).

Practice reminders

Staying safe in practice takes more than following infection prevention and control guidelines when treating clients. Follow Public Health Ontario guidance in the workplace, including maintaining social distance and using face coverings when social distancing is a challenge. It's equally important to remain vigilant in times before and in-between clients, when interacting with colleagues, and during break periods. It's during these times, when not focussing on client care, an individual may potentially let their guard down and become vulnerable. ODHA wants you and your workplace to remain safe and healthy.

ODHA continues to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic closely and will communicate facts and evidence based information to members as we always have.

Refer to the ongoing updates on the ODHA [COVID-19 update page](#) to stay informed.