

**APPENDIX 1: [Rapid review: Does Toronto Public Health emphasize indoor air quality in its public COVID-19 advice to congregate settings?](#)**

**Table 1.** Summary of primary and secondary documents (n = 29) with the search results of the keywords. Dates reflect most recent revision of document and not original publication.

Resources in Toronto Public Health's Congregate Living Setting Resources Toolkit				Keyword Searches (checkmark indicates appearance of key word one or more times in document)											
Title	Publisher <sup>a</sup>	Document Type	Published/Revision date	airborne	aerosol(s)	HVAC	ventilation	ventilate	filtration	filter	HEPA	portable	exhaust fan	window(s)	ultraviolet (UV)
COVID-19 Preparedness and Prevention in Congregate Living Settings	PHO	primary	May 2021		✓										
Managing COVID-19 Outbreaks in Congregate Living Settings	PHO	primary	May 2021		✓									✓	
COVID-19 How to Isolate in Place Tip Sheet for Homelessness Service Settings	TPH	primary	May 2021					✓							
De-escalation of COVID-19 Outbreak Control Measures in Long-term Care and Retirement Homes	PHO	secondary	May 2021												
Health Care Huddles: IPAC Checkpoints	PHO	primary	Mar 2021												
COVID-19: Infection Prevention and Control Checklist for Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes	PHO	secondary	Dec 2020		✓										
COVID-19 Keep physical distance poster <sup>b</sup>	CoT	primary	Nov 2020												
Fact Sheet: Cohorting During an Outbreak of COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Homes	PHO	secondary	Nov 2020												
IPAC for Extenders Session 2: Screening, Physical Distancing, Cohorting, Environmental Cleaning	PHO	primary	Nov 2020									✓			
COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Environmental Services for Health Care Settings	PHO	secondary	Oct 2020		✓							✓		✓	
Cohorting During a COVID-19 Outbreak in a Congregate Living Setting	PHO	primary	Jul 2020												
COVID-19: Cohorting in Outbreaks in Congregate Living Settings	PHO	primary	Jul 2020												
COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions for Congregate Living Settings	PHO	primary	Jul 2020	✓	✓										
Prevention and Management of COVID-19 in Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes	PHO	secondary	Jun 2020		✓										
COVID-19 Webinar – Healthcare Worker Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Use and Cohorting in Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes	PHO	secondary	May 2020	✓	✓										
Foundations of COVID-19 Prevention and Control for Congregate Living Settings	PHO	primary	May 2020												
COVID-19 Guidance: Congregate Living for Vulnerable Populations	OMOH	primary	May 2020		✓										
COVID-19 Webinar for Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes	PHO	secondary	Apr 2020		✓			✓							

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<i>Title</i>	<i>Publisher<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Document Type</i>	<i>Published/Revision date</i>	<i>airborne</i>	<i>aerosol(s)</i>	<i>HVAC</i>	<i>ventilation</i>	<i>ventilate</i>	<i>filtration</i>	<i>filter</i>	<i>HEPA</i>	<i>portable</i>	<i>exhaust fan</i>	<i>window(s)</i>	<i>ultraviolet (UV)</i>
Infection Prevention and Control Long-term Care Home Checklist – Extender Orientation	PHO	secondary	Apr 2020		✓										
Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Droplet and Contact Precautions Non-Acute Care Facilities	PHO	primary	Mar 2020									✓			
Control of Respiratory Infection Outbreaks in Long-Term Care Homes, 2018	MOH&LTC	secondary	Nov 2018	✓	✓										
Institutional/Facility Outbreak Management Protocol, 2018	MOH&LTC	secondary	Jan 2018												
Routine practices module: Occupational Health & Safety Component <sup>d</sup>	PHO	secondary	Nov 2014												
Routine practices module: Control of the Environment Component <sup>d</sup>	PHO	secondary	Nov 2014	✓		✓	✓					✓		✓	
Routine practices module: Administrative Controls Components <sup>d</sup>	PHO	secondary	Nov 2014												
Routine practices module: Chain of Transmission & Risk Assessment Component <sup>d</sup>	PHO	secondary	Nov 2013	✓			✓								
General Introduction to Routine practices: Health Care Provider Controls <sup>c,d</sup>	PHO	secondary	Undated	✓											
Routine practices module: Additional Precautions <sup>c,d</sup>	PHO	secondary	Undated	✓										✓	
COVID-19 IPAC Fundamentals Training <sup>c</sup>	PHO	primary	Undated												

<sup>a</sup> CoT: City of Toronto, MOH: Ontario Ministry of Health, PHO: Public Health Ontario, TPH: Toronto Public Health, GoC: Government of Canada, MOH&LTC: Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

<sup>b</sup> the publication/revision date for the “Keep Physical Distance” poster was not indicated, the date was determined by the date listed on associated URL

<sup>c</sup> the publication/revision date was not indicated

<sup>d</sup> reviewers audited online trainings for inspectors, and also reviewed associated online accessibility documents for keywords: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/education-and-events/online-learning/ipac-courses/ipac-core-accessible-documents>

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Table 2 lists the context, page, and paragraph in which each keyword is mentioned. This table only lists the document in which keywords appear.

**Table 2.** Context of the keywords identified in primary and secondary documents

Document	Keyword	Page	Context	Paragraph
COVID-19 Preparedness and Prevention in Congregate Living Settings	<i>aerosol(s)</i>	13	N95 masks for aerosol-generating medical procedures	“An N95 respirator is only required if an aerosol-generating medical procedure is being performed (this is unlikely to be required in most congregate living settings).”
Managing COVID-19 Outbreaks in Congregate Living Settings	<i>aerosol(s)</i>	7	N95 masks for aerosol-generating medical procedures	“HCWs receive education on what is an aerosol generating medical procedure and what is not an aerosol generating medical procedure.”
		7	N95 masks for aerosol-generating medical procedures	“N95 respirators for aerosol generating procedures only;” “HCWs have been fit tested for N95 respirators.”
		16	Cleaning and disinfection	“Aerosol or trigger spray bottles are not used to apply cleaner/disinfectants.”
COVID-19 How to Isolate in Place Tip Sheet for Homelessness Service Settings	<i>ventilate</i>	2	Indoor air quality	“If an individual room is not available, consider using a large, well-ventilated room to place clients who have COVID-19 or symptoms together (i.e. cohorting) away from clients who are well.”
COVID-19: Infection Prevention and Control Checklist for Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes	<i>aerosol(s)</i>	7	N95 masks for aerosol-generating medical procedures	“HCWs receive education on what is an aerosol generating medical procedure and what is not an aerosol generating medical procedure.”
		7	N95 masks for aerosol-generating medical procedures	“N95 respirators for aerosol generating procedures only;” “HCWs have been fit tested for N95 respirators.”
		16	Cleaning and disinfection	“Aerosol or trigger spray bottles are not used to apply cleaner/disinfectants.”
IPAC for Extenders Session 2: Screening, Physical Distancing, Cohorting, Environmental Cleaning	<i>portable</i>	31	Cleaning and disinfection	“Is shared client care equipment cleaned between uses on clients? e.g., portable lift, pivot disc for transfers, tubs, shower chairs.”

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Document	Keyword	Page	Context	Paragraph
COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Environmental Services for Health Care Settings	<i>portable</i>	29	Portable fans and air conditioning units	“Use of Portable Fans and Portable Air Conditioning Units”
		29	Portable fans and air conditioning units	“Plan preventative maintenance and follow the manufacturer's instructions on how to clean, disinfect, and maintain the portable fan or air conditioners on a scheduled basis (e.g., daily, weekly, monthly).”
		29	Portable fans and air conditioning units	Hyperlink <sup>a</sup> : At A Glance -The Use of Portable Fans and Portable Air Conditioning Units during COVID-19 in Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes
	<i>window</i>	16	Cleaning and disinfection	“Measure of cleanliness based on visual appearance. Includes dust and dirt removal, waste disposal and cleaning of windows and surfaces.”
	<i>aerosol(s)</i>	28	Cleaning and disinfection	The Fate of Disinfectant Aerosols
COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions for Congregate Living Settings	<i>aerosol(s)</i>	37	PPE	“For personal protective equipment, face shields alone are not as effective as a surgical/medical mask along with the face shield, as droplets and/or fine particles (aerosols) may enter around the sides and bottom of the face shield.”
		40	N95 masks for aerosol-generating medical procedures	“N95 respirators are not required unless an aerosol-generating medical procedure (AGMP) is being performed for a resident who has or may have COVID-19, such as in an outbreak area of the facility.”
		40	N95 masks for aerosol-generating medical procedures	“Aerosol-generating procedures include continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP), bi-level positive airway pressure (BiPAP) and deep open suctioning of a resident with a tracheostomy.”
	<i>airborne</i>	40	N95 masks for aerosol-generating medical procedures	“An N95 respirator is a special face covering that protects the wearer against very small airborne particles. It must fit the wearer’s face properly which is assessed by a process called fit-testing.”
Prevention and Management of COVID-19 in Long-	<i>aerosol(s)</i>	10	PPE	“Ensure your facility has sufficient PPE and swabs for testing. PPE includes gloves, gowns, surgical/procedure masks and protective eyewear, as well as N95

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Document	Keyword	Page	Context	Paragraph
Term Care and Retirement Homes				respirators for any aerosol-generating medical procedures (AGMP).”
		12	Aerosol-generating medical procedures	Hyperlink: Infection Prevention and Control Requirements for Aerosol-Generating Medical Procedures ( <b>broken link</b> )
		12	Aerosol-generating medical procedures	Hyperlink: COVID-19 Aerosol-Generating Medical Procedures ( <b>broken link</b> )
COVID-19 Webinar – Healthcare Worker Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Use and Cohorting in Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes	<i>airborne</i>	12	Aerosol-generating medical procedures	“Airborne precautions must be used when aerosol- generating medical procedures (AGMPs) are planned or anticipated to be performed on residents with suspected/confirmed COVID-19.”
	<i>aerosol(s)</i>	12, 23	Aerosol-generating medical procedures	“N95 respirators are used for aerosol-generating medical procedures, such as CPAP and tracheostomy with suctioning.”
COVID-19 Guidance: Congregate Living for Vulnerable Populations	<i>aerosol(s)</i>	15	N95 masks for aerosol-generating medical procedures	“An N95 respirator is only recommended if an aerosol-generating medical procedure is being performed (this is unlikely to be required in most congregate living settings).”
COVID-19 Webinar for Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes	<i>ventilation</i>	13	N95 masks for aerosol-generating medical procedures	“Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation during airway management (e.g. manual ventilation)”
		13	N95 masks for aerosol-generating medical procedures	“Non-invasive positive pressure ventilation for acute respiratory failure (CPAP, BiPAP)”
	<i>aerosol(s)</i>	13	N95 masks for aerosol-generating medical procedures	Aerosol generating medical procedures performed:
		13	N95 masks for aerosol-generating medical procedures	Hyperlink <sup>b</sup> : <a href="https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/ipac/report-covid-19-aerosol-generation-coughs-sneezes.pdf?la=en">https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/ipac/report-covid-19-aerosol-generation-coughs-sneezes.pdf?la=en</a>

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Infection Prevention and Control Long-term Care Home Checklist – Extender Orientation	<i>aerosol(s)</i>	29	Aerosol-generating medical procedures	Hyperlink: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Infection Prevention and Control Requirements for Aerosol-Generating Medical Procedures ( <b>broken link</b> )
		29	PHO COVID-19 Resources	Hyperlink: COVID-19: Aerosol Generation from Coughs and Sneezes <sup>b</sup>
Control of Respiratory Infection Outbreaks in Long-Term Care Homes, 2018	<i>airborne</i>	8	Out of scope	"[airborne infections] require additional outbreak control measures and are out of scope for this document. As well, management of outbreaks caused by bacterial pathogens (e.g. Legionella and Tuberculosis) and fungal respiratory pathogens (e.g. Aspergillus), are out of scope for this document."
	<i>aerosol(s)</i>	37	PPE	"Eye protection should be worn where there is a potential for splattering or spraying of blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions, including cough producing aerosol-generating procedures, while providing direct resident care."
Routine practices module: Control of the Environment Component	<i>HVAC, airborne, windows, ventilation, portable</i>	N/A	Indoor air quality	Mentions the importance of HVAC. Discusses negative/positive air pressure in the context of airborne disease transmission. Mentions the possibility of opening or closing windows. "Portable" mentioned in the context of sharps containers.
Routine practices module: Chain of Transition & Risk Assessment Component	<i>airborne, ventilation</i>	N/A	Indoor air quality, disease transmission	"Engineering controls include safeguards built into the health care setting structure itself such as special ventilation or dedicated hand washing sinks." Also: "proper air flow is an example of a Control of the Environment that improves air quality and stops infectious agents from travelling."  "In health care we focus on 3 main Modes of Transmission: contact, droplet and airborne. The Infectious Agent travels from one host to another through contact, droplet or airborne routes."
General Introduction to Routine practices:	<i>airborne</i>	N/A	N95 masks for aerosol-generating	"A respirator filters small airborne particles to prevent the inhalation... of Infectious Agents such as tuberculosis

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Document	Keyword	Page	Context	Paragraph
Health Care Provider Controls			medical procedures	that are transmitted by the airborne route.”
Routine practices module: Additional Precautions	<i>airborne, windows</i>	N/A	Indoor air quality	Discusses airborne as a mode of transmission for some illnesses. Specifically does not recommend airborne precautions for respiratory infections (w/exception of TB). Discusses negative pressure rooms.  “While waiting for transfer the resident must be placed in a single room with the door and windows closed at all times.”

<sup>a</sup> The hyperlink is reviewed because it contains the keyword "portable," however, it does not reference portable air filters. This document is archived but not included in the review summary as it is beyond secondary level.

<sup>b</sup> The hyperlink is reviewed because it contains the keyword "aerosol." This document is archived but not included in the review summary as it is beyond secondary level. Notably, it states that COVID-19 is not airborne: "In the context of coronaviruses, and in particular COVID-19, the epidemiology of the infection has been demonstrated not to be airborne."