

Hello All:

A quick update today on the following:

- 1) Asthma & COVID-19 Webinar - tomorrow at noon
  - 2) PPE - OMA survey & N95 Masks
  - 3) Maternal-Newborn Care
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1) Thank you to Dr. Sheila Horen for sharing with us the webinar that is taking place tomorrow in regards to COVID-19 and Asthma. The information is as follows:

Asthma Canada has partnered with Dr Alan Kaplan to present a webinar on "COVID-19 and Asthma" on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM (EST). Dr. Kaplan's webinar will focus on questions around COVID-19 and its impact on those with asthma or caring for those with asthma. This webinar is open to all Canadians with asthma or caregivers of Canadians with asthma. If interested, please register for the webinar here:

<https://asthma.ca/speaker-series-webinar-covid-19-and-asthma/>

What you'll take away:

- Updates on the current situation with updates from the Public Health Agency of Canada and the World Health Organization
- An understanding of COVID-19 risks to the general population and specifically to those living with asthma
- Steps people with asthma can take to stay healthy
- Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

2) PPE - OMA Survey & N95 Masks

Yesterday I encouraged you to contact our local health unit regarding PPE supplies. Please continue to do so.

I should also have taken the opportunity to remind you that the OMA is conducting a PPE survey, and it is important to complete the survey to ensure our needs are also being tracked through the OMA.

The survey can be found here: <https://oma.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f3031ca7cb6af54104b9de2cd&id=01e7827840&e=98f54cab84>

With respect to the use of N95 masks, I understand the WECHU has already received a number of requests for these types of masks. Kristy McBeth has pointed out that: "based on the current IPAC recommendations, a surgical mask would be recommended for most provider interactions including assessment and swabbing, with the exception of any aerosol-generating medical procedures. Providing N95 masks also requires individuals to have been tested for properly sized and typed masks, so it also wouldn't be appropriate to drop off ill-fitting masks".

I am re-attaching the document from yesterday regarding PPE for your information.

Page 3 outlines the use of N95 respirators for care of individuals with suspected/confirmed COVID-19, and is broken down by practice setting.

Page 6 provides guidelines for use of procedural/surgical masks by health care providers.

Page 9 discusses strategies for conserving PPE, which is important given the current availability of supplies.

### 3) Maternal-Newborn Care

Thank you to Dr. Joslyn Warwaruk for sharing with us the following information:

I am on the newborn care committee at WRH. I have been attending webinars for maternal newborn care in south western Ontario

There is a great website and link for patients and MRPs

- [www.mncyn.ca](http://www.mncyn.ca)
- Go to the covid -19 link then to perinatal list
- There is a brochure for patients who are pregnant
- Family docs could download this and give to patients
- It is very important that breastfeeding is discussed before delivery
- Ottawa – is not allowing direct breastfeeding in suspected covid moms
- But London is leaving it up to the informed mom

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Jen

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