

April 15, 2004

MEMORANDUM TO: Chief Executive Officers, Acute and Non-Acute Care
Facilities and Community-Based Health Care Providers

FROM: Allison J. Stuart, Director
Emergency Management Unit
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

RE: Directive to all Ontario Health Care Facilities/Settings for
High-Risk Respiratory Procedures in Outbreak
Conditions

Standard for all Ontario Health Care Facilities/Settings for
High-Risk Respiratory Procedures in Non-Outbreak
Conditions

Emergency Medical Assistance Team (EMAT) Criteria for
Deployment

Patient Transfer Authorization Centre (PTAC) Screening
Form

The attached documents regarding high-risk procedures in both SARS outbreak and non-outbreak conditions are the final SARS-related documents planned for release by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. No further changes are anticipated in the SARS documents until a complete review is done over the summer to address the following:

- current science;
- ability to generalize to other relevant respiratory disease outbreaks;
- suggested practices, and
- accessibility and length.

The revised documents, which will also address broader respiratory disease issues, will be circulated in time to orient staff to any changes prior to the influenza season.

In addition, details about the Emergency Medical Assistance Team (EMAT) are provided for your information. Included are the criteria for EMAT deployment, which should be included in your emergency preparedness materials.

Finally, the updated Provincial Transfer Authorization Centre (PTAC) form is attached and should be used when obtaining the PTAC transfer authorization number for all patient transfers.

Should you have any questions, please call the Emergency Management Unit at (416) 212-0822.

(Original signed by)

Allison J. Stuart