

Kawartha Lakes health-care providers 'seeing' patients during COVID-19

This Week

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on daily life, but residents can be assured that support remains available for their general and emergency health concerns.

The Kawartha Lakes Health Care Initiative (KLHCI), along with local primary health-care providers, reminds City of Kawartha Lakes citizens that family doctors and nurse practitioners are providing essential patient visits in their clinics, and conducting appointments remotely, to assist their patients. This includes prescription renewals, follow-ups from test results and questions regarding COVID-19. The majority of these services are being offered via telephone or video consults.

Patients must call their health providers' offices first if an in-person visit is necessary. Health providers will be wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) for everyone's safety.

"Community Care is pleased to offer appointments to our clients virtually, or in person if needed, through our Community Health Centre (CHC), as well as consultations with our social worker, registered dietitian and health promoter," says Community Care City of Kawartha Lakes clinical services director Margot Fitzpatrick.

Those needing to book an appointment or looking for additional information are asked to call [705-879-4100](tel:705-879-4100) and press 2.

Kawartha North Family Health Team executive director Marina Hodson states her group continues to offer patient care both virtually and in person where appropriate.

"We appreciate everyone's patience during these difficult times and hope that you continue to practice the outlined distancing measures. In an effort to ensure everyone's safety, we ask that patients not come to the office without a pre-booked appointment," continues Hodson.

For contact information and additional guidance, visit www.knfht.ca.

Those without a family doctor or nurse practitioner may book a telephone appointment with Dr. Alan Konyer by calling [705-340-2677](tel:705-340-2677) between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Telehealth Ontario is also available for health-care needs at [1-866-797-0000](tel:1-866-797-0000), or 911 in the event of a health emergency.

"If medical assistance is needed, I urge you to call your doctor's office or visit the Ross Memorial Hospital emergency department. Early diagnosis and treatment can lead to a better outcome. CKL's family doctors, nurse practitioners and the hospital are still available to you," says KLHCI president Barb van der Veen.

The Ross Memorial team has several enhanced measures in place to keep patients safe.