



SOON.

We're so grateful for the efforts of our community when it comes to prioritizing the health and safety of our residents. When the time is right, we will once again open our doors to families and friends and to everyone interested in senior living at Amica Georgetown. Until that time comes, we're here to answer any questions you may have.

For the latest updates and re-opening information, please contact us.

CALL ALISON OR CARI-LEE AT 905-702-1555

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NEWS

HERE'S HOW TO GET TESTED FOR CORONAVIRUS LOCALLY

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While the Province has opened up testing for coronavirus to more people, Halton Healthcare is reminding local residents that its assessment centres are still operating by appointment only.

"We want to reassure our communities that no one will be denied an appointment," said Joan Jickling, director of quality and patient relations. "We saw a dramatic increase in the number of people requesting tests after the Province announced more widespread availability of testing for COVID-19 beginning May 24. For the ongoing safety of our patients and to prevent crowding, testing will continue to be offered by

appointment only."

As of late last month, testing criteria was expanded in Ontario and now includes all people who have at least one COVID-19 symptom or are concerned they've been exposed to the virus.

Halton Healthcare reports that since mid-March, more than 7,000 residents have received an assessment, counselling or testing for COVID-19 at its centres, located at the Oakville, Milton and Georgetown hospitals.

Infectious diseases consultant Dr. Ananda Ghosh said having pre-booked appointments help the hospitals ensure appropriate personal protective equipment and test kits are available, and reduce the impact of having long line-ups.

"The use of appoint-

ments also allows patients to be tested in a safe and reasonable manner without compromising any privacy or physical distancing guidelines," said Ghosh.

Residents can book their own test or be referred to a COVID-19 assessment centre by a physician or Halton Public Health. All bookings for the Halton Healthcare centres are received through a dedicated central intake phone line at 905-203-7963.

The COVID-19 test is completed using a nasopharyngeal swab to collect a clinical test sample. The swab is inserted in the nostril and then rotated for a specified period of time to collect secretions. It's then placed in a sterile container and sent for analysis.

Halton Healthcare officials note that while the test can be uncomfortable, it can be completed in a relatively short period of time.

For more information, visit haltonhealthcare.com.

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