

Northern Central Hub– IPAC Community of Practice for Long-Term Care Homes

IPAC education needs in LTC and RHs

Rohit Garg

Public Health Ontario

June 17, 2021

Housekeeping

- Feel free to ask questions and share your comments in the chat box or by unmuting your audio

Objectives

- Review the elements of an Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) program in Long-Term Care Homes (LTCH)
- Review the roles and responsibilities of an IPAC lead
- Review IPAC education and training resources for IPAC leads, health care staff, IPAC champions and essential visitors

Ice Breaker Polling Question

- Do you have a dedicated IPAC lead for your home?
- How many years of experience do they have in IPAC role in LTCHs?
- What IPAC training have they received?

IPAC Program



Infection Prevention and Control Program in Long-term Care homes

The *Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007* (Act) and O. Reg 79/10 under the Act requires that every home has an IPAC Program

Sources:

1. Ministry of Long-Term Care Infection prevention and control (IPAC) program guidance Jan 2021
2. Best Practices for Infection Prevention and Control Programs in Ontario | May, 2012: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/b/2012/bp-ipac-hc-settings.pdf?la=en>

Elements of an IPAC Program

- Surveillance
- Orientation and continuing education in IPAC for health care workers
- Policies and procedures
- Occupational health
- Antimicrobial stewardship
- Outbreak investigation and management
- Hand hygiene program
- Immunization and screening
- Others as outlined in legislation or other Directives



Who Implements the IPAC Program?

- Interdisciplinary team approach in the co-ordination and implementation of the program- *IPAC Committee*
- Home designates a staff member to co-ordinate the program- *IPAC lead*
- All staff participate in the implementation of the program

IPAC Lead - Responsibilities

- Trained individual responsible for IPAC activities specific to the health care setting and the population served
- Uses a systematic surveillance approach to monitor the effectiveness of IPAC strategies that are consistent with the organization's goals and objectives
- Acts as an educational resource for IPAC
- Provides guidance or knows how to find expert advice in IPAC-related issues

IPAC Lead - Education and Experience

- O. Reg. 79/10 requires that the IPAC lead designated by the home must have education and experience in:
 - infectious diseases
 - cleaning and disinfection
 - data collection and trend analysis
 - reporting protocols
 - outbreak management.
- An IPAC lead having knowledge of the following is also encouraged:
 - asepsis
 - microbiology
 - policy development
 - epidemiology
 - individualized patient care practices relevant to the scope of service within the home.

IPAC Lead - Resources for Education

- Getting started with your education:
 - Online courses available:
 - IPAC Canada for a list of their endorsed courses
 - Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) for textbooks
 - Public Health Ontario's website for IPAC online learning

Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) – Online Learning

Looking to build or expand your knowledge in IPAC best practices? Check out our courses on IPAC core competencies and reprocessing, as well as specialized knowledge for different environments, including hospitals, community health care settings and long-term care homes.



IPAC Lead - Resources for Education

Other sources of continuing education:

- Your local Public Health Unit
- Public Health Ontario
- Local Hospital IPAC Hub

Resources to access:

- Webinars
- Community of practice meetings
- Long-term care interest groups
- Practice recommendations
- Knowledge products, scientific and technical information
- Summaries of local or provincial epidemiology

COVID-19 Long-Term Care Resources

COVID-19 has had a large impact on the residents and staff in Ontario's long-term care and retirement homes. PHO has developed the following resources to help staff and administrators in these settings manage and prevent COVID-19 outbreaks.

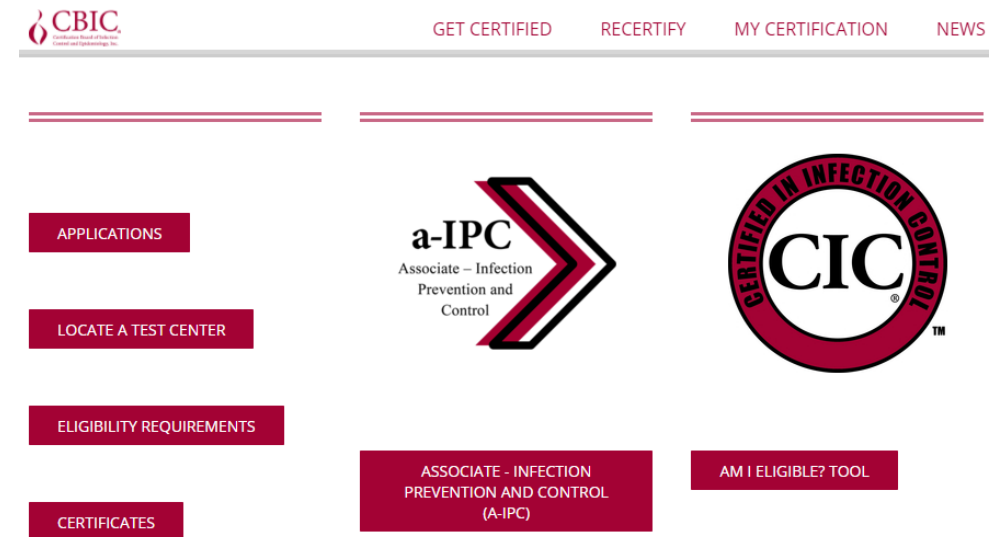
These resources are complementary to the current public, public health, and health care guidance available on the [Ministry of Health's website](#).



IPAC Lead - Resources for Education

- Certification in Infection Control (CIC®) ≥ 1 year of full time experience
- The a-IPC (Associate – Infection Prevention and Control)- entry-level certification examination
- Measures standardized current knowledge in IPAC
- CIC® is the only accredited certification in infection prevention and control

Link to CBIC website: <https://www.cbic.org/CBIC.htm>



Discussion questions

What annual IPAC education is given to your employees (e.g. content, frequency)?

- What about at orientation?
- Any department specific training?
- What resources are they using?
- How do staff access or receive training on the policies?
- How do you know if staff have taken the training?
- How do you assess what they have learned?




Let's
Discuss


All Staff (includes health care workers, students and volunteers)


- Duties under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OSHA):
 - Use any equipment, protective devices or clothing required by the employer;
 - Work in compliance with the Act and regulations
- Education and Training:
 - Routine Practices and Additional Precautions
 - Hand hygiene and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - Personal Risk Assessment
 - Basic IPAC knowledge to help decrease the risk of transmission of infection in health care
 - Other role specific training


[Rights and Duties: FAQs | Ministry of Labour \(gov.on.ca\): https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/faqs/rights.php](https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/faqs/rights.php)


Resources for staff training


 MyPHO


 Health Topics


 Diseases & Conditions

 Laboratory Services

 Data & Analysis



 Education & Events

 About


 Contact


En


Fr




Login

 Search

 Save

 Share

 Print

[Home](#) > [Education & Events](#) > [Online Learning](#)

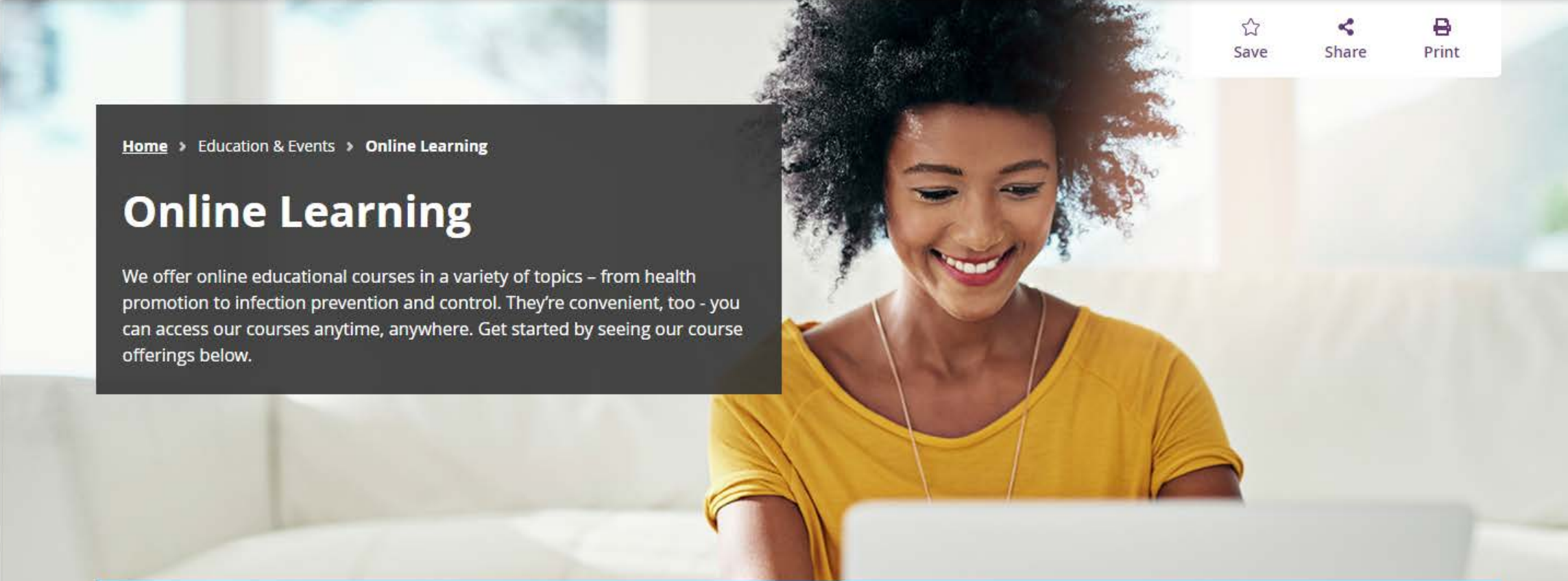
Online Learning

We offer online educational courses in a variety of topics – from health promotion to infection prevention and control. They're convenient, too - you can access our courses anytime, anywhere. Get started by seeing our course offerings below.

ONLINE LEARNING

Ready to start learning?

Visit our course catalogue, where you'll find enrolment information and a list of our courses along with their descriptions and system requirements, as well as



Resources for staff training

[Home](#) > [Education & Events](#) > [Online Learning](#) > [Infection Prevention and Control \(IPAC\) – Online Learning](#)

Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) – Online Learning

Looking to build or expand your knowledge in IPAC best practices? Check out our courses on IPAC core competencies and reprocessing, as well as specialized knowledge for different environments, including hospitals, community health care settings and long-term care homes.

Public Health Ontario has developed four new modules for the IPAC Core Competencies online course:

- Personal Risk Assessment in Acute Care
- Personal Risk Assessment in Long-term Care
- Personal Risk Assessment in Community-Clinic
- Personal Risk Assessment in Community-Home

Scroll down and select “View all course modules” or contact ipac@oahpp.ca for more information about these modules.

[Home](#) > [Education & Events](#) > [Online Learning](#) > [COVID-19 IPAC Fundamentals Training](#)

COVID-19 IPAC Fundamentals Training

Welcome to PHO’s COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Fundamentals training. These IPAC resources will help you prepare for your role as you respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

These modules were developed for:

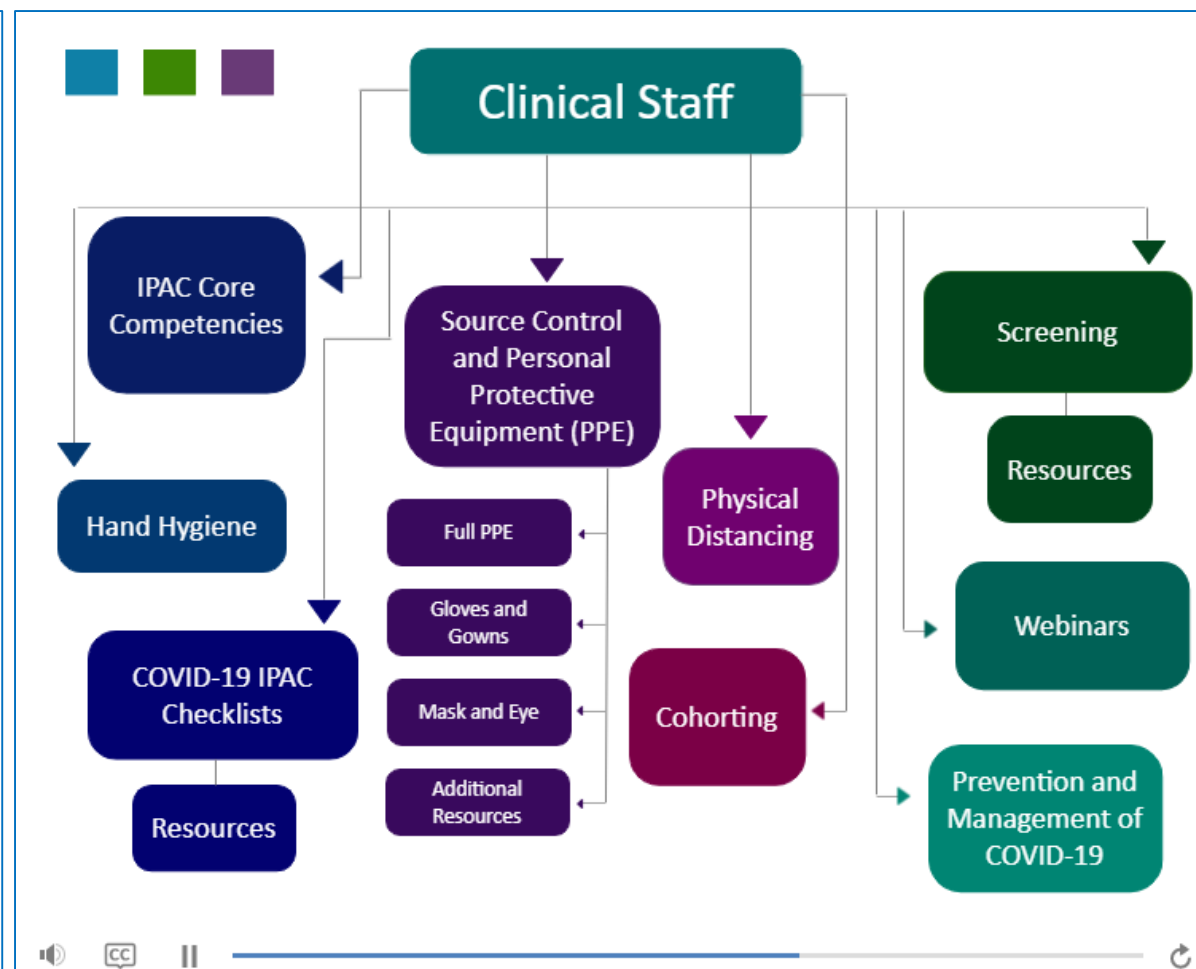
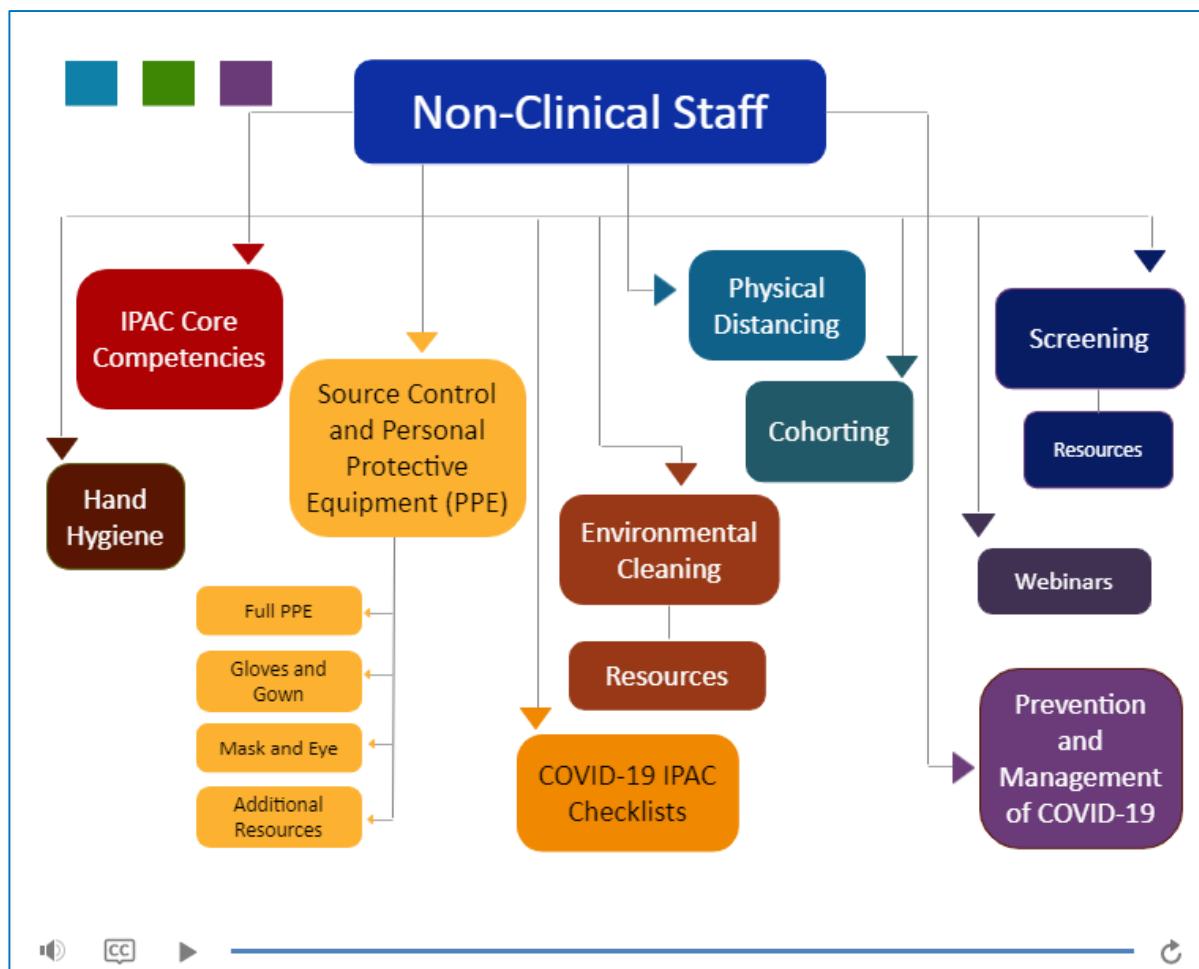
- Long-term care
- Congregate living settings (e.g., group homes)
- Inspectors, investigators and assessors that support long-term care and other congregate living settings
- Families of residents in long-term care and other congregate living settings

Please choose the module that is most appropriate for you.

The time to complete a module will vary, depending on which stream you choose and your prior experience with IPAC concepts.

PHO is interested in evaluating the use and effectiveness of this material. You will be taken to a short survey about your experience at the end of each course, which will help us to make enhancements.

IPAC Fundamentals



When and how to provide staff education?

IPAC education must be given:

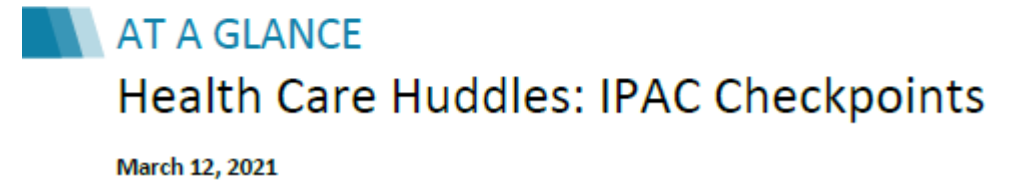
- At orientation of new staff
- On an ongoing scheduled basis (e.g., annually)
- If a situation demonstrates a specific need (e.g., during outbreaks; to provide information on a new emerging infections; when required based on results of audits)

Education techniques must be applicable to adult learning styles.



IPAC huddles

- During shift change brief staff on successes, concerns and performances with IPAC protocols
- Find out where the gaps are
- Select on key IPAC practice to demonstrate.
- Examples: Hand hygiene, PPE, environmental cleaning.



Document link: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/ltrh/2021/03/ipac-huddles-checkpoints.pdf?la=en>

An Effective IPAC Education Program

- Have appropriate policies and procedures that ensure:
 - mandatory attendance at, or completion of, periodic IPAC training/education for all employees
 - attendance recorded and reported back to the manager to become a part of the individual's performance review
- Periodic evaluation for effectiveness (process audits)
- Incorporate results of process audits into education
- Feedback serves as an educational tool to stimulate change in resident care practices and to refine programs

Source: Best Practices for Infection Prevention and Control Programs in Ontario | May, 2012

Essential Visitors and Family Members

- Fact Sheets:
 - [When and How to Wear a Mask](#)
 - [Non-Medical Mask](#)
 - [Mask Use for Non-Health Care Workers](#)
 - [How to Wash your Hands](#)
 - [How to Hand Rub](#)
 - [Physical Distancing](#)
 - [Cleaning and Disinfection for Public Settings](#)
 - [How to Protect Yourself from COVID-19](#)
 - [How to Self-Monitor](#)
 - [How to Self-Isolate](#)
- Videos
- Webinars



Discussion questions

Do you have IPAC Champions?

- What training have they have received?
- How do they provide feedback to their peers?



Let's
Discuss

IPAC Champions (or Safety Officers)

- IPAC best practices are followed 24/7 in all shift and all areas of the home
- Identify staff to act as champions to model good hand hygiene and PPE donning and doffing practices
- Informal leaders on each floor on each shift
- Protected learning time
- Hand hygiene and PPE audits
- Frequent meetings to have their input
- Training - IPAC Core competencies and Practical component for auditing

For More Information About This Presentation, Contact:

lpaccentral@oahpp.ca

Public Health Ontario keeps Ontarians safe and healthy. Find out more at
PublicHealthOntario.ca