

# BCPCLinks

## BCPC Practice Bulletin

October 2023

*October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.  
Encourage your patients to get screened.*

## You're invited to attend a Virtual Town Hall Meeting with the Burlington Ontario Health Team

Thursday, November 9, 2023

6:00-7:00 p.m.

<https://tinyurl.com/2p84z4av>

From the Ministry of Health's recent announcement, the BOHT wants to share some important updates about:

- The OHT's acceleration towards designation and what's involved
- New Integrated Clinical Health Pathways in COPD, CHF, Diabetes, and Stroke to improve patient and provider experience and outcomes; Inform the Pathways Action Plan for Burlington OHT
- Development of Primary Care Networks
- How you, as a primary care provider, can get involved

Please join us for this important discussion about the advancement of the BOHT and primary care in Burlington.

## OH direction for flu and COVID season readiness and response

Ontario Health direction was received earlier this month to help primary care and other health care providers prepare for the anticipated flu and COVID surge this fall and winter.

### Primary care:

- Continue prevention and care of respiratory illness for patients through testing, immunization, and treatment
- Review Ontario Health's [website](#) for resources related to COVID-19 treatment



## Flu and COVID season readiness and response (cont'd)

New resources include:

- [Ontario Health Recommendations for Outpatient Use of Intravenous Remdesivir \(Veklury\) in Adults](#)
- [Information about how to access antiviral treatments for COVID-19 in the community](#)

Ministry of Health's [COVID-19 Vaccine-Relevant Information and Planning Resources](#)

Review [Infection prevention and control guidance](#) from the Ontario College of Family Physicians.

Ensure adequate PPE supplies are on hand.

- Register and order supplies through the provincial [PPE Supply Portal](#).

Continue to order COVID-19 PCR testing supplies through your usual channels, and order COVID-19 rapid antigen tests through the provincial [PPE Supply Portal](#) to distribute to your patients.

## Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) Updates

As of October 16, 2023 the following policy changes have been implemented:

### Screening Trans and Non-binary People

Eligible trans and non-binary people can be screened in the OBSP

- Sites were provided guidance documents in July to prepare and ensure they are going to provide safe and inclusive services
- Eligible trans and non-binary people who are already being screened in the OBSP may begin receiving letters from OH-Cancer Care Ontario

Eligibility includes:

- Transfeminine people: 5+ consecutive years of feminizing hormone therapy and who are otherwise eligible. No documentation is required.
- Transmasculine people: no top surgery and who are otherwise eligible.

### Inclusion of People with Breast Implants

Eligible people with breast implants can be screened in the OBSP.

- Sites were provided with guidance documents on screening people with implants in July
- Appointments will include two additional images per breast for participants



## Fall Workshops:

### **Palliative Care education by Pallium Canada and sponsored by Ontario Health West Region Palliative Care Network (OH WRPCN)**

Canadian Serious Illness Conversations: Fully funded learning opportunity for primary care providers across the OH West Region

November 6 - December 15, 2023

3–4 hours including online self-learning and a facilitated workshop

*Provides tools and knowledge to effectively use the Serious Illness Conversations Guide for compassionate and effective conversations; Includes a framework for best communication practices and supports clinicians to engage sooner and more frequently with patients. Accreditation in progress.*

Expressions of interest: <https://redcap.link/ftpu6c14>

Please contact [support@pallium.ca](mailto:support@pallium.ca) with any questions.

### **Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) Skill Enhancement** through McMaster University's virtual, interactive workshops:

**CBT Fundamentals:** 7 weekly 2-hour sessions, offered five times a year for clinicians and clinical learners interested in learning practical and effective core CBT strategies applicable to a broad range of presenting concerns. The next courses begin on Wednesday November 1st and Friday November 3rd.

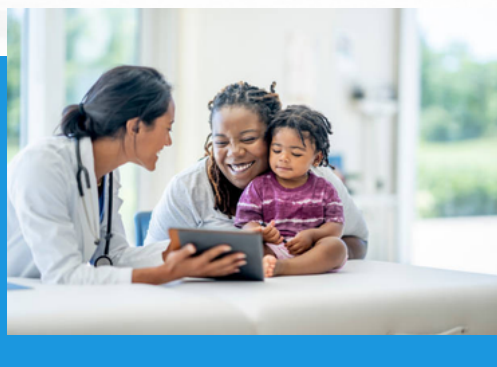
**CBT Advanced Workshops:** 14 one-day workshops begin in January 2024. Final dates and registration information will be available after November 1st.

<https://psychiatry.mcmaster.ca/education/continuing-education/cbt-training-workshops/>

Questions or to request registration information for the advanced workshops, please contact: [CBTinfo@mcmaster.ca](mailto:CBTinfo@mcmaster.ca)

### **Virtual Fitness for Breath provided by The Lung Health Foundation**

Spaces are available for Tuesday and Thursday classes. Please share with your patients who may benefit: Inquiries or to register: [patientsupport@lunghealth.ca](mailto:patientsupport@lunghealth.ca) or 437-216-5710



Please email [ohtsupport@burlingtonoht.ca](mailto:ohtsupport@burlingtonoht.ca) to receive future issues of the BCPC Links newsletter.

You can learn more about the BOHT and physician updates at [burlingtonoht.ca](http://burlingtonoht.ca).