

LTC+ Acting on Pandemic Learning Together

Webinar Recap for August 10, 2020

TOPIC & KEY AREA(S)

Family Presence in Long-Term Care
Presence of Family

SPEAKER(S)

- Maggie Keresteci, Family Caregiver
- Debi Funk, Long-Term Care Resident
- Dr. Nathan Stall, Geriatrician, Sinai Health System
- Dr. Samir Sinha, Director of Geriatrics, Sinai Health System
- Kristin Grunert, Director, Patient and Family Centered Care, SHA

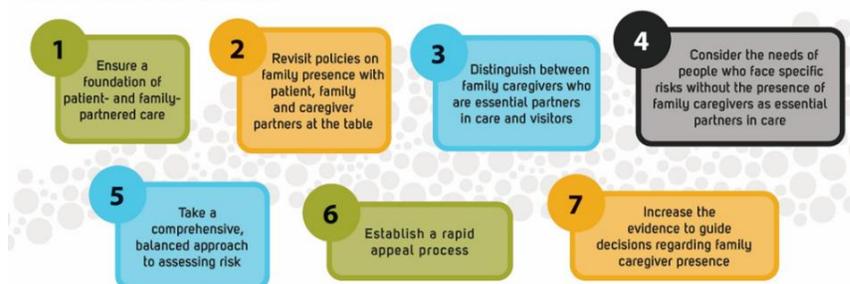
SESSION OBJECTIVE(S)

- Learn from the National Institute of Ageing / Sinai Health System on Family Presence in LTC during the pandemic.
- Generate discussion about challenges and solutions regarding Family Presence in LTC during the pandemic.
- Offer concrete strategies for homes to re-engage families and care partners as essential partners in care in LTC+.
- Share next steps to participate in the program LTC+: Acting on Pandemic Learning Together.

SUMMARY

1. The presence of family and caregiver is valuable, leading to better coordination of care, fewer medication errors, fewer falls, fewer 30-day readmissions, and better patient and family experience.
2. CFHI & CPSI have led work regarding the Re-Integration of Family Caregivers as Essential Partners in Care in a Time of COVID-19, of which, key steps include:

HOW TO MOVE AHEAD



3. Insights from a family caregiver yielded that we need to move forward in true partnership with patients and their caregivers as partners in care, especially in LTC. This could involve putting patients first by prioritizing care for the whole person, which includes their care partner, and embracing the

7. In early May, the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) created an expert panel to review and update compassionate care guidelines so that LTC residents, as well as a family presence support team to help stakeholders decipher the compassionate care guidelines and promote the reintegration of family support caregivers in LTC. A change to Public Health Order allowed LTC residents to designate two family caregivers for visitation. The SHA is now working to change the number of designated caregivers per resident, as well as their visitation frequency, in order to ensure family presence in the long-term throughout the pandemic. A testimonial from a LTC resident in Saskatchewan noted a great appreciation for LTC staff, however, highlighted the challenges of isolation, outdoor visitations, as well as choosing designated family caregivers.
8. The panel discussion demonstrated that fear, concerns over safety and liability, as well as a lack of evidence and guidance were major barriers for re-integrating family caregivers in LTC. Possible solutions to these and for supporting seniors' care operators in re-integrating family caregivers as essential partners in care for patients, included: giving credit to the role of caregivers in promoting the wellbeing of residents in LTC settings, educating and advocating for the presence of families, improving two-way communication between caregivers and operators, as well as other LTC staff, and fostering opportunities to work together to promote good quality and safe visits.

RESOURCES SHARED

Listed below are the resources mentioned during the webinar:

- [Reimagining Care for Older Adults Report](#)
- [BETTER TOGETHER: Re-Integration of Family Caregivers as Essential Partners in Care in a Time of COVID-19](#)
- [Reopening LTC Homes: Ideas from Families \[ENGLISH ONLY\]](#)
- [The NIA's 'Iron Ring' Guidance for Protecting Older Canadians in Long-Term Care and Congregate Living Settings \[ENGLISH ONLY\]](#)
- [SARS-CoV-2-Related Deaths in French Long-Term Care Facilities: The "Confinement Disease" Is Probably More Deleterious Than the Coronavirus Disease-2019 Itself \[ENGLISH ONLY\]](#)
- [Finding the Right Balance: Guidance Document to Support the Re-Opening of Canadian Long-Term Care Homes to Family Caregivers and Visitors during the COVID-19 Pandemic \[ENGLISH ONLY\]](#)
- [Personal Protective Equipment for Family Caregivers \[ENGLISH ONLY\]](#)
- [Allowing Visitors Back in the Nursing Home During the COVID-19 Crisis: A Dutch National Study Into First Experiences and Impact on Well-Being \[ENGLISH ONLY\]](#)

WEBINAR RECORDING

[Watch the full webinar here!](#)