



# How Think Research Can Support Rapid Post-Acute Care Responses to COVID-19

# Key Highlights

- Think Research specializes in implementing up-to-date, evidence-based best practices via standardized clinical tools. Our content can readily meet the needs of the post-acute care sector.
- Our new COVID-19 clinical content supports consistent early case identification and will be updated as new information emerges on a 72-hour cycle (and sooner if urgent).
- Our content library includes screening and assessment tools, care protocols and orders, and is accompanied by training resources.
- Our team is available to support you through the implementation process as required.

## Problem: Ensuring a Standardized, Evidence-Based Response to COVID-19

The number of confirmed global COVID-19 cases has topped 209,000.<sup>1</sup> Healthcare systems and local infection control and disease management are working hard to protect our most vulnerable people.

The elderly and people with underlying health concerns — such as diabetes, heart disease, or lung disease — are likely at higher risk of developing serious COVID-19 illness.<sup>2</sup>

Given these developments, it is increasingly likely that COVID-19 will affect residents across the post-acute care sector. COVID-19 transmission is a significant concern for residents who live communally because of their proximity to each other, high incidence of physical contact, and the infection's ability to spread through person-to-person contact.<sup>3</sup>

A systemic, coordinated, evidence-based approach to careful screening, with both active and passive screening and prompt infection control, will help to protect the elderly, health care staff, and their families.

## Leveraging Think Research's Existing Clinical Knowledge Infrastructure

Think Research offers evidence-based clinical screening tools to support early identification of COVID-19 cases. We have existing clinical knowledge infrastructure, having deployed clinical support tools (CSTs) for the post-acute sector across the province of Ontario.

<sup>1</sup>[World Health Organization](#), March 20, 2020.

<sup>2</sup>[Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#), March 8, 2020.

<sup>3</sup>[Toronto Star](#), March 9, 2020.

CSTs guide clinicians through a series of evidence-based questions and clinical pathways to develop an informed, person-centred plan of care. New tools being added to the library, in both digital and paper formats, will also support you to quickly identify residents at risk for infection or with concerning symptoms.

These CSTs will help you:

- Minimize the introduction of respiratory illnesses into homes.
- Offer consistent screening and early identification of suspected COVID-19 infections.
- Provide checklists to consolidate key isolation information and manage care for residents with febrile respiratory illness.

We understand the importance of having robust training and education services and tools in place to support uptake of these new tools. We are committed to releasing new COVID-19 content on a 72-hour cycle as updates become available, and even sooner for more urgent updates.

<b>COVID-19 Content</b>	<b>Tool Description</b>	<b>Stakeholders who Benefit</b>
Screening Tool for Residents	Series of best practice questions screening for any new COVID-19 symptoms	Nurses
Screening Tool for Visitors and Volunteers	Series of best practise questions to screen for COVID-19 symptoms, travel or ill contacts	Nurses, Personal Support Workers, Family Members
Readiness Checklist for Long-Term Care Homes	Checklist to support readiness to effectively manage activities related to COVID-19	Leadership in Long-Term Care Homes (e.g., Director of Care)
Isolation Checklist	Checklist of isolation precautions required, recommended personal protective equipment use	Nurses, Personal Support Workers
Febrile Respiratory Illness Care Protocol	Evidence-based information on diagnostic testing, supportive care, resident education.	Nurses
Febrile Respiratory Illness	Evidence-based orders and guidance for diagnostic, supportive care and interventions.	Physicians

# Availability Timelines for COVID-19 Library Content

Think Research will provide our new clinical knowledge tools as follows:

Paper-based: Effective March 19, 2020, **paper-based** versions of our COVID-19 CST Library are now available.

**Fillable PDFs:** Digital versions of the tools listed above will be available by 9 am on Thursday, March 26, 2020.

**EHR Integrations:** We are targeting the week of April 1 for release. We will update you on publication specifics as more information becomes available.

If our tools, content, or support can assist your work with COVID-19 in any way, please contact us at 1-877-302-1861 ext. 315 or email [lrc@thinkresearch.com](mailto:lrc@thinkresearch.com).