

**From:** info@cocoo.on.ca  
**Subject:** Province Removes Limitation of Urgent Care Only  
**Date:** May 20, 2020 at 12:28 PM  
**To:** Tera Goldblatt tgoldblatt@cocoo.on.ca  
**Cc:** bbyrne@visualantidote.com



Dear Tera,

At 12:01 am on May 19, 2020, the Regulation passed under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act which closed all non-essential businesses was amended such that the limitation on members only being able to provide “urgent care” has been removed <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/200082>.

As a result, members can see patients in their offices provided that the member complies with the directives of Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer of Health. The existing directive may be found at [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/directives/RHPA\\_professionals.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/directives/RHPA_professionals.pdf). Members may see patients in their offices provided the member determines that the patient requires essential service. The decision as to whether the service is essential must be made by the clinician. The College cannot provide a definitive list of what is and what is not essential. However, the College would consider services which are needed to prevent negative outcomes for patients to be essential.

Members who open their offices to provide essential services must follow the standards of practice of the profession, including any standards related to infection control and prevention. They must also have available the personal protective equipment, system, and administrative controls necessary to minimize the risk of spreading the Covid-19 virus. Resources to assist you in this, including the Technical Brief V2 and the COCOCO Pandemic Directive, are found at <http://cocoo.on.ca/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

These are unprecedented times and the information we are receiving from Government sources may well change without notice. This includes the potential for the amendment of Directive No. 2. As new information becomes available, we will advise members of it.

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