

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

January 10, 2023

COVID, Cold and Flu Care Clinic expands to provide care to paediatric patients

(London, Ontario) – As of Wednesday, January 11, 2023, the COVID, Cold and Flu Care Clinic (CCFCC) at London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC) will accept paediatric patients on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4 – 8 p.m., to ease Emergency Department (ED) pressures and provide alternative accessible care for the community.

In collaboration with the Middlesex London Ontario Health Team, the CCFCC has expanded to include assessment, testing and treatment for paediatric patients with symptoms of COVID, cold and flu, including:

- Fever or chills
- Cough (not related to other causes such as allergies)
- Difficulty breathing
- Muscle aches or joint pain
- Decreased or loss of taste or smell
- Gastrointestinal symptoms (such as vomiting or diarrhea)
- Runny nose or nasal congestion
- Abdominal pain (not related to other causes)
- Headache
- Extreme tiredness
- Sore throat
- Pink eye (not related to other causes)

“The last few months Children’s Hospital saw an unprecedented surge in respiratory viruses, which resulted in increased Emergency Department wait times,” said Deborah Wiseman, President, Victoria Hospital. “It’s always been our goal to expand services at the CCFCC to meet the needs of paediatric patients in the community and help offset

the pressures our Children's Hospital staff and physicians are facing. At this time, appointments for individuals under the age of 18 are available on Mondays and Wednesdays only, however, we're continuously assessing community needs and will adjust operations accordingly."

Consider making an appointment with the CCFCC if:

- Your child does not have a primary care provider
- Your child's symptoms are getting worse and are not improving, and you feel they need medical care
- You have been told by a health professional to bring your child to the CCFCC
- Your child is at high risk of getting very sick from COVID-19 and they qualify for testing and treatment

The services provided at the clinic include COVID-19 assessment and PCR testing; cold and flu assessment; and medical guidance by a health care team which could include triaging or next steps to patient care.

When possible, your primary care provider (family doctor or nurse practitioner) should be the first option when seeking medical care. If you are connecting with your primary care provider by phone or video, they may recommend you visit the CCFCC for testing, assessment, and/or treatment.

Anyone experiencing a medical emergency, should go to the nearest ED or call 911.

Located at Victoria Hospital, 800 Commissioners Rd, E, in Building 24 the clinic is open for paediatric patients on **Mondays and Wednesdays from 4 to 8 p.m.**, and appointments must be made in advance [online](#) or by calling 519-685-8500 ext. 75503. Adult clinic hours remain the same; open seven days a week, 9:20 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

More information about the CCFCC is available [online](#).

About London Health Sciences Centre

With roots going back a century and a half, London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC), is an award-winning, research-intensive acute tertiary and quaternary teaching hospital, one of only 14 such hospitals in Ontario. LHSC is also home to Children's Hospital, one of just four acute tertiary care paediatric hospitals in the province. Our unique place in

the health system positions us well to inform and advise on provincial, national and international health policy. We are the cornerstone of care for many specialized programs and services in Western Ontario. And, as a major provider of emergency care and through our community hospital mission, we also care for the more than 400,000 people who call London home as well as many in surrounding communities. With Ontario's health system continuing its transformation, LHSC has an opportunity to inform it and to place itself at the locus of the regionalized health system by virtue of its size, specialized capabilities, research and education capacity and current regional footprint. LHSC's formal relationship and strong bond with Western University provide a mechanism for collaboration to enable the delivery of high-quality care through a process of continuous learning and research. At its core, the affiliation is a reciprocal relationship that leverages the learning, teaching and care environments of both Western University and LHSC. LHSC is a 15,000-person strong team of physicians, staff and volunteers – collaborators, innovators and pioneers, meeting the care needs of those we serve and charting a course for the future.

About Middlesex London Ontario Health Team

The Middlesex London Ontario Health Team (MLOHT) is a dedicated team of local health care providers and community members who are working together to better connect health care and supports across our community. As one of 54 Ontario Health Teams (OHTs) across the province, the MLOHT works with local patients/clients, care partners, and care providers and over 100 organizations to understand the current local health care system and identify opportunities to improve care with a goal of delivering a full and coordinated continuum of care.

###

For more information contact:

Alex Pedersen

Manager, Media Relations

London Health Sciences Centre

(519) 685.8500 x 77129

alex.pedersen@lhsc.on.ca

After-hours assistance:

Call LHSC Switchboard at 519-685-8500 and ask to page the communicator on-call.

Visit the LHSC [Media web site](#)

Like us on Facebook at [London Health Sciences Centre \(LHSC\)](#), follow us on Twitter [@LHSCCanada](#) and watch us on YouTube at [LHSCCanada](#).