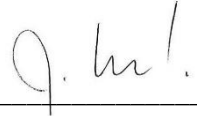



Leamington Mennonite Home
Long Term Care

**INFECTION CONTROL
POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

CATEGORY: Infection Prevention & Control Program	SUBJECT: Precautionary Principle	SECTION: A
DATE: March 15, 2024	Administrator's Signature: 	POLICY: 10
REVISION DATES:	IPAC Lead's Signature: 	

PRECAUTIONARY PRINCIPLE

POLICY:

The precautionary principle (or precautionary approach) is a broad epistemological, philosophical and legal approach to innovations with potential for causing harm when extensive scientific knowledge on the matter is lacking.

The precautionary principle must guide the development, implementation and monitoring of measures, procedures, guidelines, processes and systems to ensure the health and safety of residents and staffs.

The precautionary principle is a health and safety obligation requiring government and employers to take proactive and substantive action to protect health and safety of residents and workers.

PROCEDURE:

The application of the precautionary principle at the Leamington Mennonite Home will be guided by the key principles found in LMH's IPAC Ethical Framework and can include making a risk-based decision to transition from routine practices to additional precautions (escalation).

LMH shall ensure that when determining whether to apply the Precautionary Principle, recommendations including those of a provincial scientific table and the Chief Medical Officer of Health are considered.

LMH will ensure that processes are established for the de-escalation of practices where the precautionary principle has been applied. As part of this process, a representative of the Health and Safety committee and the IPAC team are engaged. Processes may include daily, weekly, or monthly meetings and policy and procedure reviews of these specific practices.