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Mandatory Blood Testing Act - Changes for July 1, 2023

Attention: Physicians, Emergency Departments, Walk-In Clinics, Fire Department Chiefs, Police Department Chiefs, Corrections, Ambulance, Ontario Health Central, Family Health Teams, Indigenous Health Care & Community

Date: July 5th, 2023

The Mandatory Blood Testing Act (MBTA), 2006, allows eligible persons who have come in contact with the blood and bodily fluids of another person, to apply to the Medical Officer of Health to have a blood sample of the person whose blood or bodily fluids they have come into contact with tested for infections including Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and Human Immunodeficiency Virus.

The following eligible persons can access the MBTA process if the incident occurred as a result of:

- Being a victim of crime
- Providing emergency health care services or emergency first aid; or
- During his/her duties, within a prescribed class:
 - Correctional institution employees
 - Police officers, (including civilian employees of a police service), First Nations constables, and Auxiliary members
 - Special constables (officers who are not employees by a police service)
 - Firefighters (including volunteer firefighters)
 - Paramedics and emergency medical attendants (including students engaged in training)
 - Members of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario
 - Members of the College of Nurses of Ontario
 - Medical or nursing students engaged in training

On March 26, 2019, the Ontario government passed Bill 68, the Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, 2019, which included amendments to the Mandatory Blood Testing Act, 2006 to modernize the mandatory blood testing process through improved timelines, enforcement, provincial oversight, and service delivery changes. As part of modernization, responsibility for the MBTA was formally transferred from the Ministry of the Solicitor General to the Ministry of Health.

In addition to transferring responsibility to the MOH, additional changes will be effective on July 1, 2023:

- Application deadline extended from 7 days to 30 days after exposure
- Prescribed individuals who may take blood samples (including staff in a specimen collection centre or licensed laboratory)
- All MBTA forms including a new MBTA lab requisition updated and electronic

For more information about the Mandatory Blood Testing Act: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/mandatory-blood-testing>.
To access MBTA forms: Central Forms Repository @ <https://forms.mgcs.gov.on.ca/>.



For more information about the MBTA process, please call 705-721-7520 extension 8376 or to submit a MBTA application, please fax to Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit at 705-721-7449.