

## Ontario Institute of Facial Surgery Investigation

### Questions and Answers

#### **When did the Health Department learn about this?**

Health Department staff and a representative of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario inspected the Ontario Institute of Facial Surgery located at 672 Brant St. in Burlington, on December 4, 2017.

#### **What were they doing wrong at the medical office?**

Proper infection prevention and control practices were not being followed to clean, disinfect, sterilize and store equipment and devices. The Halton Region Health Department inspected the Ontario Institute of Facial Surgery on December 4, 2017 as a result of a patient complaint. Upon completion of the inspection, the Halton Region Health Department closed the Ontario Institute for Facial Surgery. As of December 12, 2017, Dr. Korkis has satisfied all the requirements of the Health Department and can resume patient services at this location. Halton Region is not aware of any cases of infection associated with this clinic at this time.

#### **What is an infection prevention and control lapse?**

An infection prevention and control lapse is when proper infection prevention and control standards are not followed, putting clients at risk of infection.

#### **Does the Health Department routinely inspect medical clinics?**

Inspections are completed on a complaint basis or as part of a reportable disease investigation as required by provincial guidelines.

#### **What is the role of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO)?**

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is the regulatory body for physicians in Ontario. Visit [www.cpso.on.ca/](http://www.cpso.on.ca/) to learn more.

#### **Are there any cases of infection?**

The Health Department is currently not aware of any cases of infection related to the infection prevention and control lapse at the medical office.

## **Why is the Health Department recommending I see a doctor to discuss testing for hepatitis B, hepatitis C and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)?**

These viruses can be transmitted from person to person through blood or other body fluids. Improperly cleaned medical instruments carry a low risk of transmitting hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV to clients.

## **What should I do if I don't have a family doctor?**

Go to a walk-in clinic with the physician letter. To obtain a copy of the physician letter, visit [halton.ca/health](http://halton.ca/health).

## **Where can I learn more about hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV?**

Please visit [halton.ca](http://halton.ca) for more information.

## **What does the testing involve?**

Blood samples are collected and sent to a laboratory for analysis.

## **Should my partner or other family members be tested?**

Only clients who received medical services at the Ontario Institute of Facial Surgery located at 672 Brant St., Unit 405 in Burlington are advised to discuss testing with their doctor. Based on what we know so far, the risk of disease from this situation is low. Discussing testing with a doctor is being recommended as a precaution.

## **Who will pay for the tests?**

The tests are free and covered by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP).

## **I am already vaccinated for hepatitis B, should I still see my doctor?**

Yes. The Health Department recommends that all clients see their doctor, even if they have been vaccinated against hepatitis B.

## **How can I find out more information?**

More information including the physician letter has been posted to Halton Region's website. Please visit [halton.ca/health](http://halton.ca/health) or call 311.

## **Is this the same doctor who runs a clinic in Grimsby?**

The doctor has another clinic at the West Lincoln Memorial Hospital in Grimsby; however the Halton Region Health Department's investigation only involves the medical clinic operated by Dr. Korkis located at 672 Brant St., in Burlington.

The Halton Region Health Department notified Niagara Region Public Health of Dr. Korkis's practice in Grimsby and they are investigating. At this time, Niagara Region Public Health is not advising patients who saw Dr. Korkis at the Grimsby location to seek any medical follow-up. If you have further questions or concerns related to the Grimsby location, please contact Niagara Region Public Health by calling 1-800-263-7215.

### **I saw this doctor at another location, should I be concerned?**

The Halton Region Health Department's investigation only involves the medical clinic operated by Dr. Korkis located at 672 Brant St., in Burlington.

### **Should I find a new specialist?**

Choosing a doctor is a personal decision. If you have a referring family doctor, please speak to them about your options. If you are in need of a family doctor, please visit [halton.ca/newdoctor](http://halton.ca/newdoctor) to find a list of doctors accepting new patients.

### **What should I look for when I go to a physician or specialist?**

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) maintains a list of all physicians and whether they are permitted to practice or have ever been suspended. The College also provides information about infection control practices. Visit [www.cpso.on.ca/](http://www.cpso.on.ca/) to learn more.

### **Will the Health Department provide updates on the issue?**

Updates will be provided as new information is known. To find regular updates visit [halton.ca/health](http://halton.ca/health) or if you have any immediate questions, please call 311.

### **Who can I contact if I have personal health-related questions?**

Contact your family doctor if you have personal health questions.