

ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY HEALTH TEAMS OF ONTARIO

BRIGHT LIGHTS AWARDS 2021

Nomination: Demonstrating a community response to COVID-19

McMaster Family Health Team

McMaster FHT Community COVID-19 Ward (COVID@Home)



The Community COVID Ward Program was developed by McMaster FHT (MFHT) clinicians to actively monitor COVID-19 patients at home ensuring prompt identification and escalation of care for those developing serious illness, and reduction of the burden on hospital services from patients not needing hospital admission. The program involves structured risk assessment to determine monitoring intensity, provision of pulse oximeters and regular structured follow up linked to an evidence-based pathway. The clinician monitors symptoms and vitals, and other social and psychological supports needed. The model was scaled across the Hamilton Family Medicine community and adapted for use provincially by Ontario Health (now branded the COVID@Home primary care program).