

---

**BY EMAIL**

April 24, 2020

Ms Jan Legeros, Executive Director  
Long Term Care Association  
135 McGregor St #202  
Winnipeg, MB R2W 4V7  
[jlegeros@lcam.mb.ca](mailto:jlegeros@lcam.mb.ca)

Dear Ms. Legeros,

I am writing to ask for your help in getting an important message out to Manitobans with essential health concerns to support them in continuing to seek care.

As the public follows public health advice on social distancing, physicians are reporting that many of their patients are staying home and not coming in for needed care. While this is less concerning for younger healthier adults, it is a major concern for patients with chronic conditions.

Doctors Manitoba has started a patient awareness campaign to remind Manitobans: Don't put your health on hold, call your doctor. The message is intended to encourage Manitobans to continue seeking care for their medical concerns. Patients can visit [callyourdoctor.ca](http://callyourdoctor.ca) where they will learn that doctor's offices may be able to offer them a virtual visit while also reassuring them if an in-person visit is needed, clinics are screening patients for COVID-19 symptoms and cleaning more frequently to minimize the risk of visiting the doctor's office.

Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's Chief Provincial Public Health Officer, has advised Manitobans to stay on top of their medical conditions and continue to seek care during the pandemic.

**How can you help?**

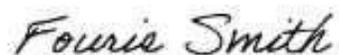
Doctors reported to us that they are seeing over 50% of patients staying home and skipping medical appointments or not seeking care. We are requesting your help in getting the message out to patients with essential health concerns and their families to not put their health on hold.

We can support you in getting this message out. We have drafted a letter you can send to your email lists. We have also prepared image files to support you in communicating this through social media.

If you are able to help, please contact **Arpita Goala** ([agoala@doctorsmanitoba.ca](mailto:agoala@doctorsmanitoba.ca) or phone **204-985-5845**) for support in developing messaging for your members and stakeholders that you can, of course, adapt as you deem appropriate. We will also share image files for email messages along with images and messages for social media.

Thank you for your help in supporting the health of Manitobans as we all navigate the COVID-19 pandemic together.

Sincerely,



**Dr. Fourie Smith**  
President, Doctors Manitoba