

MEMORANDUM

**TO: All HPEI staff and Physicians
PEI College of Pharmacy
PEI Pharmacists Association.**

**FROM: Cheryl Banks RN., MN, Director of COVID Operations
Dr. Erin McCarvill, COVID Operations Physician Lead**

DATE: May 11, 2023

SUBJECT: PAXLOVID CORE PRESCRIBING PROGRAM CLOSING EFFECTIVE MAY 31, 2023

The Paxlovid Core Prescribing program supported by Physicians, Nurse Practitioners and HPEI Pharmacists was recently reviewed as part of the overall evaluation of services implemented specifically for COVID-19 care and treatment.

Community Pharmacists have consistently been prescribing well over 85% of all Paxlovid prescriptions in this province for several months now. Many times, patients have a referral with several program areas at the same time (community pharmacies, HCP, and the Core prescriber program via 811) which has resulted in a triplication of efforts in an already strained health care system.

In the past several months the overall demand for Paxlovid has gradually declined with only 41 prescriptions administered during the week of April 24-30th. Due to the ongoing efforts of community pharmacists, family physicians and nurse practitioners, referrals to the core prescribing team are now less than 2-3 per week.

As a result, a decision has been made to incorporate Paxlovid prescribing into normal operations while maintaining services at the Community Pharmacy level. ***The Paxlovid Core Prescribing program will no longer be operational as of May 31, 2023.***

Patients who request Paxlovid at a community pharmacy whom the pharmacist has identified as not meeting the inclusion criteria will be notified by the pharmacist that they do not meet the criteria. They can be directed to contact their Primary Care Provider, Maple or attend a walk-in clinic if they feel they require further assessment and care. *Schematic Process flow map to access Paxlovid on reverse side.*

We want to end by saying a huge thank you to all who stepped up to the plate to make this happen. It is because of all of you that this program has been so successful, and Islanders remain the highest in the country in terms of Paxlovid uptake.

If you have additional questions or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to either myself cabanks@igis.org or Dr. Erin McCarvill (emccarvill@ihis.org).

Thanks to all who participated in the program!

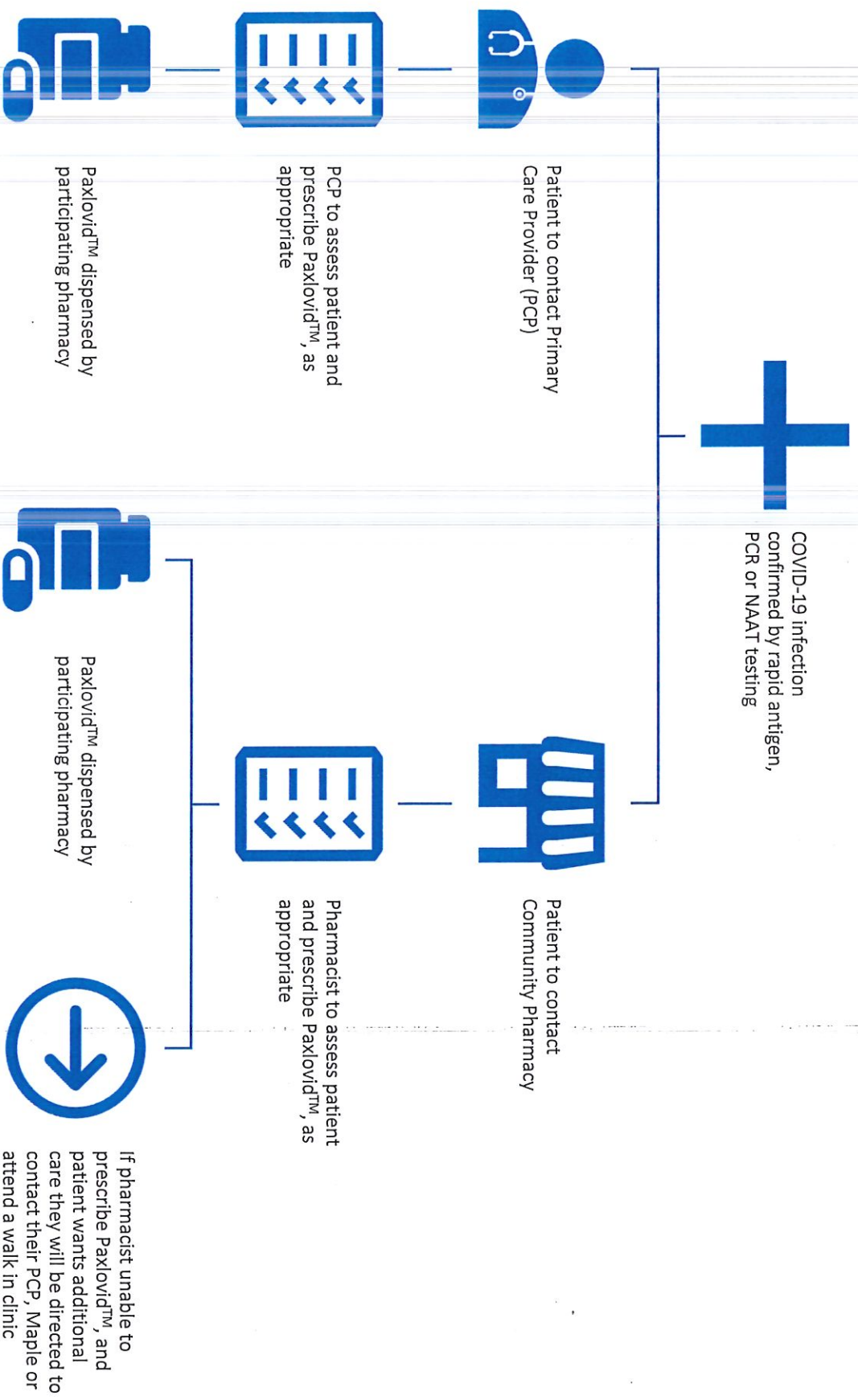
Cheryl

Erin

Cheryl Banks, RN., MN
Director of COVID Operations

Dr. Erin McCarvill
Physician Lead for COVID Operations

Process for Accessing Paxlovid™ in PEI



A list of participating pharmacies can be found at <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-and-wellness/pharmacy-plus-pe-participating-pharmacies>. Patients who request Paxlovid at a community pharmacy whom the pharmacist is unable to prescribe for will be directed to contact their Primary Care Provider, Maple or attend a walk-in clinic if they feel they require further assessment and care.