

## Important Message to Patients About ParaMed Flex Clinics in London, Ontario

August 20, 2018

During recent inspections in London Ontario, the Middlesex-London Health Unit identified a lapse in certain infection prevention and control practices at three ParaMed Flex Clinics in London. Specifically, certain medical instruments used in wound care were not sterilized between each use to the standard that is required.

As a result, some patients who received services at these London clinics may have been exposed to improperly sterilized equipment. Patients who received wound care at the three London ParaMed Flex Clinics between 2008 and July 27th, 2018 may be at risk of a blood-borne infection. Although the risk of such an infection is very low, patients are advised to consult their healthcare provider to discuss testing.

ParaMed will be advising all impacted patients of this lapse and blood testing procedures by registered mail. Note that no blood-borne infections have been diagnosed and linked to the ParaMed Flex Clinics.

There are three nursing clinics operated by ParaMed in the Central East LHIN (one in Lindsay and two in Scarborough).

- The Lindsay clinic has been inspected by its respective public health unit, who has confirmed that the clinic has been using appropriate infection prevention and control measures.
- For the two ParaMed clinics in the Central East LHIN that are in Toronto (jurisdiction of Toronto Public Health i.e. TPH), these clinics have been inspected and at the time of inspection, TPH did not find evidence that a similar Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) lapse as observed in Middlesex-London occurred in these clinics. The health unit continues to collaborate with ParaMed offices, the LHIN and with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care on this IPAC investigation.

Should you have any questions or concerns related to this matter, further information can be found on the Middlesex-London Health Unit's website at [www.healthunit.com/ipac-lapse-paramed](http://www.healthunit.com/ipac-lapse-paramed). Patients can also call ParaMed directly at 1-888-746-5511 for further information.

### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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