

Pembroke Regional Hospital

MEMO

To: All Staff and Physicians

From: Infection Prevention and Control & Occupational Health and Safety

Date: Wednesday, August 14th, 2024

Subject: COVID-19 Outbreak Declared – Medical Unit

Today, the Pembroke Regional Hospital, in collaboration with the Renfrew County and District Health Unit, declared a COVID-19 outbreak on the Medical Unit.

Staff and physicians are reminded about the importance of universal PPE adherence, handwashing, and enhanced cleaning of shared equipment/ spaces.

As a result of the outbreak, although general visitation to the unit is discouraged it will not be limited at this time. Caregivers are permitted to visit for essential reasons. All caregivers and visitors must be notified that the unit is currently experiencing an outbreak of COVID-19 and must be compliant with masking and other PPE as indicated by additional precaution signage.

Because of the outbreak, all staff and physicians working on the Medical Unit must follow universal masking (medical/ procedure mask) and eye protection for all patient interactions. Masks must be worn at all times in the clinical area. As always, staff and physicians must complete a point of care risk assessment and select additional PPE as required. Transient staff must remove their mask and eye protection prior to leaving the outbreak unit and perform hand hygiene. A new mask may be applied as indicated based on work self-isolation protocol or risk assessment.

All patients admitted to the Medical Unit during the time of the outbreak must be placed on Droplet + Contact precautions and receive admission testing for COVID-19.

As a reminder, staff must report new illness symptoms to Occupational Health and Safety at ext. 8200 and must not report to work if feeling unwell. Afterhours, staff must contact clinical resource nurse at ext. 6820. The Occupational Health and Safety will provide instruction for safe return to work.

If you feel that you have had an unprotected high-risk contact, please contact the Occupational Health Team (ext 8200) to discuss your situation.

We will be providing additional updates on the situation as required.