

COVID-19 UPDATE

Keeping You Safe



Thunder Bay Regional
Health Sciences
Centre

To: All Hospital and Health Research Institute staff, professional staff, and volunteers
From: Dr. Stewart Kennedy, EVP, Regional Programs, Clinical Supports & Medical Affairs
Date: March 14, 2020
RE: **Critical Protection of Supplies**

It is critical that Hospital supplies are protected so that they are available for the health and safety of patients, staff and professional staff. This applies to all supplies, and is especially urgent for personal protective equipment (PPE).

Effective immediately, all PPE is to be and utilized only as appropriate and stored as securely as possible. This may include keeping limited amounts in plastic drawers outside of rooms where PPE is required, and storing remainder in a secure area of the unit.

See below for Public Health Ontario guidelines for PPE for COVID-19.

Units are not to order or store higher levels of PPE than necessary. Hospital leadership will conduct visits to units to ensure appropriate use and storage of PPE.

Thank you for your cooperation. Your diligence in the protection of supplies is imperative to our response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Public Health Ontario's Recommended Guidelines for PPE for COVID-19 are as follows.

For staff conducting screening:

- surgical/procedure mask;
- gown and gloves;
- eye protection (goggles or face shield).

For aerosol generating medical procedures (i.e. endo tracheal intubation, CPR, open airway suctioning, bronchoscopy, surgery/autopsy, sputum induction, non invasive positive pressure ventilation for acute respiratory failure, high flow oxygen therapy):

- N95 respirator;
- gown/gloves;
- eye protection (face shield or goggles);
- negative pressure rooms.

All Hospital COVID-19 updates are available on the iNtranet at <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/covid-19-information/>.

For more information about COVID-19, please contact the Thunder Bay District Health Unit at 1-888-294-6630 or www.tbdhu.com/coronavirus. More information is also available at <https://files.ontario.ca/moh-coronavirus-info-sheet-english-2020-02-18.pdf>.

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Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre is a leader in Patient and Family Centred Care and a research and teaching hospital proudly affiliated with **Lakehead University, the Northern Ontario School of Medicine and Confederation College.**

Le Centre régional des sciences de la santé de Thunder Bay, un hôpital d'enseignement et de recherche, est reconnu comme un leader dans la prestation de soins et de services aux patients et aux familles et est fier de son affiliation à l'**université Lakehead, à l'École de médecine du Nord de l'Ontario et au collège Confédération.**

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En santé
ensemble