

# COVID-19 DAILY SITUATION REPORT



Thunder Bay Regional  
Health Sciences  
Centre

## Friday, April 10, 2020

This is the day we hoped would never come. A member of our Hospital's support staff has tested positive for COVID-19. Our thoughts are with our colleague, who is isolating at home. Please join me in hoping for a quick recovery.

Our Occupational Health & Safety team is working with the Public Health Unit to investigate contacts both in the community and in the Hospital. Our initial investigation has determined that there has been minimal exposure to Hospital staff and patients.

This development weighs extremely heavily on all hospital staff and professional staff. Although we know that people working in health care are at high risk, that knowledge does not make this reality any easier to accept. Now, more than ever, is the time for empathy. We must support each other. We must be strong. We must protect each other as best as we can.

Our community needs us. A lot is being asked of each and every person working at this hospital. We will get through this together. The health and safety of everyone is a priority we all share and is what will motivate us as this pandemic continues to evolve.

To appropriately protect our health care workers and to ensure longer-term sustainability of sufficient Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supply, our Hospital began today collecting N95 masks for potential reprocessing. Evidence-based decisions and responses are applied to guidelines that ensure the safe reprocessing of N95 masks. Please refer to today's memo for details.

COVID-19 testing update: As of yesterday (Thursday, April 9) 475 tests have been performed at our Assessment Centre and in our Hospital. Currently, our Hospital team is providing care to two confirmed cases. One patient infected with COVID-19 was discharged.

Our Hospital lab is equipped to process COVID-19 tests. The ability is within reach to provide test results within two hours, and to increase volumes to at least 192 tests daily. However, test processing here depends on supplies of reagents and test kits. Orders are delayed. Dr. Kennedy has engaged provincial and federal health partners and political leaders to solicit their assistance. Our allies are committed to addressing barriers to help acquire necessary testing supplies as well as PPE.

Members of our community are responding to our call for donations to support our COVID-19 pandemic response. If you receive an offer of donated PPE, equipment or supplies, please contact Tanya Niderer at [niederet@tbh.net](mailto:niederet@tbh.net) or 252-2111. Your cooperation ensures that all donations are properly assessed, distributed and acknowledged.

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Given the current pace of change, there is a higher than usual need for leadership presence. An enhanced after-hours leadership model provides additional support to our staff during our COVID-19 response. Leaders are readily available to provide direction, support, guidance and education to staff as it relates to COVID-19 guidelines, policies and procedures with an emphasis on Personal Protective Equipment and safety and to manage immediate risk situations, emergent questions and events. Thank you to Hospital management for exemplary leadership. The commitment to providing extra coverage to respond to urgent situations is appreciated.

All previously issued COVID-19 Daily Situation Reports are available at <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/covid-19-information/past-daily-updates/>.

Staff are also strongly encouraged to view the Daily Situation Report videos available at <http://tbrhsc.net/covid-19-information>

Please forward any questions/concerns to your supervisor.

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For questions about COVID-19 testing criteria, please contact the TBDHU's Infectious Disease Program at 807-625-5900 or toll free at 1-888-294-6630.

Local COVID-19 case status: <https://www.tbdhu.com/coronavirus>

Provincial COVID-19 case status: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus#section-0>

Canada COVID-19 case status: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>

COVID-19 Daily Situation Report videos: <http://tbrhsc.net/covid-19-information>

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