

COVID-19 DAILY SITUATION REPORT



Thunder Bay Regional
Health Sciences
Centre

Thursday, April 16, 2020

COVID-19 testing update: As of yesterday (Wednesday, April 15) 808 tests have been performed at our Assessment Centre and in our Hospital. 54 of those were performed yesterday. Currently, our Hospital team is providing care to three patients who are COVID-19 positive, and 25 presumptive cases. Two COVID-19 positive patients are receiving care in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). Six patients, both positive and highly suspicious for COVID-19, are in the COVID-19 Care Unit.

Our Hospital will implement a new medical directive regarding COVID-19 testing criteria. This new directive follows the recently recommended Ontario Public Health Guidelines for screening. This will reflect a change from two to one of several symptoms related to COVID-19. More information will be provided as it is confirmed. This development may enhance testing of community members, and especially health care workers and emergency responders as a priority group. It may also impact staffing levels due to stricter Hospital entrance screening criteria. We are grateful to our health system and political partners for recognizing the benefits of enhanced test processing capacity at our Hospital in this regard.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) remains a high priority. While recent deliveries improve our situation, conservation efforts must continue to ensure supplies are available should there be an influx of COVID-19 infected patients. For information of PPE, including a new PPE Question & Answer document, please visit <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/covid-19-information/>. Thank you to those who submitted questions.

In response to the evolving situation and resulting recommendations, it has been determined that cloth masks will be provided to all Hospital staff and professional staff, in every department. Distribution will begin in identified priority areas and continue as supplies are delivered in batches. If you are not provided a mask at work, it is because your department has not yet received a supply. Your patience is appreciated.

Cloth masks are to be worn at all times when physical distancing of two meters is not possible. Staff who provide direct patient care will wear their cloth mask at all times including for direct patient care of non-isolated patients. Direct patient care staff will only remove their cloth mask in order to Don appropriate PPE as per clinical risk assessment and Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) policies.

Our Hospital will begin to develop a Post-Pandemic Recovery plan. The purpose of the plan is to address non-urgent health care needs both during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. A dedicated team will investigate processes and timing to ramp up non-COVID-19 service, such as elective surgeries and ambulatory care services to eliminate or minimize health decline for people waiting for care. Jessica Logozzo, EVP Regional Transformation & Integration, will lead the recovery project team, which will report to the Incident Management Team. As activity progresses, the team will engage Hospital program

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and service dyad leaders.

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.

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/>