

Monday, April 6, 2020

COVID-19 testing update: As of yesterday (Sunday, April 5) 370 tests have been performed at our Assessment Centre and in our Hospital.

Ontario has launched a new user-friendly online portal for the public to easily access their COVID-19 lab test results, from the safety of their home. The portal provides patients with their test results and guidance on next steps. People who have been tested for COVID-19 can access results at <u>www.covid-19.ontario.ca</u>. This portal helps to ease pressures on public health units and frontline workers so that they can focus on containing COVID-19.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) update: A procedural mask conservation plan has been implemented, following careful consideration and review of evidence from Ontario Health. The protection of all health care workers must be balanced with global supply issues. Together we will safely manage through this crisis by making the right decisions. Procedural masks are provided as follows:

Emergency Department: All staff will be provided two masks per shift.

All other Areas of Unknown Risk of Exposure: Two masks per shift will be provided to staff providing direct patient care. All others will be provided one mask per shift. This applies to:

- Renal Dialysis;
- Cancer Centre;
- Labour and Delivery;
- Diagnostic Imaging;
- Outpatient areas that are still open.

Support staff should check with Manager or designate before entering an Area of Unknown Risk. Staff and professional staff working in Areas with Unknown Risk of Exposure for a short duration (less than 15 minutes) and that can maintain physical distancing from patients should not wear a procedural mask. In all other situations, standard PPE procedures should be followed. To view yesterday's Procedural mask conservation plan memo (there were some distribution issues), please visit the iNtranet.

Staff who do not receive Hospital-provided masks and wish to wear masks brought from home may do so.

For more information regarding use of PPE, please refer to policy ICP-2-16 (Management of Novel Respiratory Infections).

In the setting of COVID-19, Canadian Blood Services (CBS) has issued a "green-phase advisory" regarding the status of Canada's blood supply. There is sufficient inventory of all blood components and products in the supply chain. However, due to the dynamic and evolving nature of this situation, the advisory status may be escalated quickly if demand outpaces supply. For CBS guidelines on blood usage, please visit https://blood.ca/sites/default/files/Green-Advisory 2020 03 31 FINAL.pdf





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 hôpitald'enseignement et de recherche, estreconnucomme un leader dans la prestation de soins et de services aux patients et aux familles et estfier de son affiliation à **l'université Lakehead, à l'École de médecine du Nord de l'Ontario et au collègeConfédération**.



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

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: <u>https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-</u> <u>coronavirus#section-0</u>

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

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

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

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.

