

COVID-19 DAILY SITUATION REPORT



Thunder Bay Regional
Health Sciences
Centre

Friday, May 15, 2020

COVID-19 Status as of 10:30 am

Tests performed yesterday (Assessment Centre and in Hospital)	Tests Performed total (Assessment Centre and in Hospital)	Presumptive Cases in Hospital	Total Positive Cases in Hospital	Positive Cases in ICU	Patients in COVID-19 Care Unit	Hospital Occupancy
87	3123	18	2	0	10	73.1%

Yesterday, Premier Ford announced details regarding the reopening and expansion of services, effective Tuesday, May 19. Specifically noted were scheduled surgeries based on the ability to meet pre-specified conditions. The guidelines regarding conditions are outlined in [A Measured Approach to Planning for Surgeries and Procedures During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#).

Expectations for our Hospital include to:

- reserve 10% of acute care capacity;
- maintain critical supplies, including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), swabs, reagents, and medications;
- exceed both current usage and projected requirements for scheduled surgical and procedural work;
- enable physical distancing for both inpatient flow and outpatient activity;
- have available health human resources for urgent and emergent care, including consideration of overall workforce availability, as well as support long-term care.

The health and safety of patients, staff, professional staff and the community remains our utmost priority. As Ontario slowly reopens the economy, we urge the public to continue to practice physical distancing, wearing a face covering when physical distancing is difficult or not possible, as well as regular handwashing and staying home when ill.

Our Emergency Department has witnessed a decline in visits since the pandemic began. As we begin to ramp up services, patient volumes are beginning to rise again. We want to remind the community that our Emergency Department (ED) is a safe place, and that proper precautions have been put in place to protect our staff, patients and the community.

To improve our approach to infection control measures and ensure the safety of all, the ED is deemed a COVID-19 Hot Zone and further segregated into High Risk and Low Risk zones. Zones are separated by barrier walls to keep equipment, staff and patients separate. The ED entrance is enhanced for screening and allows the patient to be immediately segregated and triaged to the appropriate zone. Additional safety measures include:

- All patients going to the High Risk zone get masks for added protection.
- All patients going to the Low Risk zone are kept away from anyone that screened positive.

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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- Patients in the High Risk zone are put into a room created to meet the physical distancing requirements and most rooms are private or semi-private. There is no hallway nursing in the High Risk area improving the physical distancing measures and reducing transmission between patients.
- Staff wear PPE in all areas and follow strict donning/doffing procedures and hand washing.
- Most staff are dedicated to a High or Low Risk zone and do not move between areas to reduce risk of transmission. If staff are required to move between zones, there are procedures in place to ensure safety.
- Equipment is dedicated to each zone and does not move between areas. Enhanced cleaning measures are also in place to reduce contamination.
- Protocols have been implemented for moving patients between areas in the hospital to reduce contamination.
- Protocols have been implemented for airborne procedures, including the use of dedicated enhanced airborne rooms, to ensure other patients and staff are not exposed.

Those in need of urgent care will always have access to it at our Hospital. However, we ask that those in need of non-urgent care, such as those seeking sick notes, find alternative solutions.

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: <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/>