

COVID-19 UPDATE

Keeping You Safe



Thunder Bay Regional
Health Sciences
Centre

To: Hospital Professional Staff, Directors, Managers, Coordinators

From: Dr. Stewart Kennedy, COVID-19 Incident Manager

Date: May 26, 2020

RE: COVID-19 Swabbing of Patients with Stroke or Cardiac Symptoms

The health and safety of all staff, professional staff, patients and the community is our utmost priority. In response to the recent COVID-19 exposure of patients and staff at our Hospital, and in consultation with Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) the following screening measures have been implemented.

Effective May 20, 2020, all Cardiac Cath Lab patients, and patients who present in the Emergency Department and/or who are admitted to the hospital with stroke or cardiac symptoms are swabbed for COVID-19 using the Public Health Ontario Laboratories (PHOL) process. Medical Directive Novel-Coronavirus (COVID-19) Screening PCS-MD-267 reflects this change.

These patients will also require the following isolation precautions:

- 1) All Cardiac Cath Lab patients, and patients who present in the Emergency Department and/or who are admitted to the Hospital with stroke or cardiac symptoms will be placed on droplet/contact precautions until their swab is resulted;
- 2) Patients will be admitted into private rooms on 2C first, or cohorted into semi-private rooms once all private rooms have been occupied;
- 3) Patients will be cohorted based on similar swab dates and/or like symptoms;
- 4) Patients will be moved out of cohorted rooms once their swab results are negative.

Again, your health and safety is our top priority and we will take every possible measure to keep you safe. Thank you for continuing to provide quality health care to our patients, families and community.

For more information, please contact your supervisor.

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