

COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT



Tuesday, December 1, 2020

COVID-19 Status as of 10:20 am:

Presumptive Cases in Hospital	Total Positive Cases in Hospital	Positive Cases in ICU	Hospital Occupancy
8	3	1	88%

Our Hospital is partnered to support local Long-Term Care (LTC) homes and local Retirement homes if needed. This includes creating a roster of staff willing to assist in retirement homes and LTC home settings in the community, should the need arise. If you have a desire to help, a passion for caring for seniors, and the ability to be called upon if needed, please seriously consider putting your name forward. More information is available here:

<http://informed.tbrhsc.net/getattachment/Informed/Daily-Informed-Items/Call-for-Expression-of-Interest-Potential-Redeploy/Call-for-Expression-of-Interest-LTC-RH-November-2020.pdf>.

With the recent increase of positive COVID-19 cases in our community, it is imperative that we ensure appropriate physical distancing in all outpatient waiting rooms. For the protection of all, please ensure that all safety initiatives and infection prevention and control protocols are being followed at all times. Your continued diligence is appreciated.

Your safety is paramount. Given community spread of COVID-19 within Ontario and evidence that transmission may occur from those who have few or no symptoms, use of Level 2 (or higher) procedure masks will become mandatory for all staff beginning Wednesday, December 2. This change is in alignment with the Ministry of Health's guidance on masking of health care providers and other staff working in a health care setting. More information will be provided via memo.

As always, the health and safety of all staff, professional staff, patients and the community is our utmost priority, and every effort is made to ensure a safe work environment. All measures to keep COVID-19 out of our Hospital are critical. This includes staff actively and honestly self-screening for symptoms of the virus prior to reporting to work, as well as reporting to your supervisor any symptoms that may arise during work. Please note that if you have been advised by Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU) to quarantine due to exposure, you are required to inform your supervisor and Occupational Health & Safety (OHS). **Additionally, if a member of your household is required to be tested as a result of close contact with a positive case, you must inform your supervisor and OHS, and self-isolate at home until your their test results are returned.** This new measure is in place out of an abundance of caution for the health and safety of all.

In response to the prevalence of COVID-19 in our community and across the province, our Hospital enhanced travel restrictions limiting non-essential travel outside of Northwestern

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Thunder Bay Regional
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Ontario. Fourteen days of self-isolation following travel outside of the region is recommended by Public Health out of an abundance of caution. Our Hospital allows staff to return to work after seven days **if asymptomatic**, because research demonstrates that symptoms are most likely to appear within this time frame. Upon returning to work for the remaining 7 days of self-isolation full PPE for direct patient care, and adherence to all safety protocols is expected. When not at work, staff are expected to continue to follow protocols for self-isolation for the remaining 7 days of the 14 day period, as per Public Health recommendations.

Thunder Bay District Health Unit and our Hospital strongly advises that all residents, including staff, avoid non-essential travel outside of Northwestern Ontario. In addition, hosting visitors from other areas outside of Northwestern Ontario is not advisable and should be limited to essential reasons. More information was provided via memo on November 27th.

Learners on placement at our Hospital must abide by all Hospital COVID-19 protocols, including the current travel restrictions. For some medical students and residents, travel within Northern Ontario has been deemed essential by the Incident Management Team. These learners must follow the processes set out by Academic Affairs upon their return, in collaboration with our Academic Partners.

We are committed to ensuring safety, as well as everyone's right to confidentiality. Please see the attached document for more information about what happens if a staff member tests positive for COVID-19.

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

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/>