

COVID-19 UPDATE

Keeping You Safe



Thunder Bay Regional
Health Sciences
Centre

To: All Staff and Professional Staff

From: Dr. Peter Voros, COVID-19 Incident Manager, EVP In-Patient Care Programs

Date: May 27, 2021

RE: **Surgical Service Resumption and ICU Surge Planning Update**

On May 3rd, due to Ontario Health's update to Directive #2 and the concern surrounding the number of COVID-19 positive cases and Intensive Care Unit (ICU) admissions across the Province, the Operating Room (OR) and Endoscopy decreased their services. During this decrease in service, staff were redeployed and received additional training to support patient care should there be a surge in COVID-19 ICU admissions. Thank you to all team members for your commitment and co-operation during this redeployment.

In order to effectively manage wait times and patient outcomes, as Directive #2 has been rescinded by Ontario Health, the OR will increase service starting Wednesday, June 2nd and Endoscopy will resume regular activity as of Tuesday, June 1st.

The service increase in the OR will fluctuate daily based on the availability of health human resources in not only the OR but also all interrelated departments. The remaining redeployed OR and Pre-Admission Clinic staff will be returned to their home departments to support this increase in OR services.

Starting Monday, May 31st redeployed staff assigned to 2C will return to their home units as well. In the event that Room 290 is required as an ICU expansion space, this area will be staffed by ICU in collaboration with 2C staff.

In an effort to manage ICU admissions, including transfers from Manitoba, ICU staff will be increased to support expanded capacity as needed. If expanded space is temporarily required for ICU expansion, Room 290 on 2C, and 3C Neuro Observation beds will be used in collaboration with impacted stakeholders and IMT approval.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to patients as we continue to adapt to the changing COVID-19 environment.

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