

# HOSPITAL ACTIVITY UPDATE

**October 6, 2021**

COVID-19 Status as of 10:00 am:

Presumptive Cases in Hospital	Total Positive Cases in Hospital	Positive Cases in ICU	Active COVID-19 cases in the TBDHU district	Our Hospital's Internal Pandemic Response Level
17	2	0	2	<b>Green (Recover and Prevent)</b>

Screening is one of the infection prevention measures that can help slow the spread of COVID-19. In accordance with recommendations from the Ministry of Health, changes have been made to the Hospital's COVID-19 entrance screening questions on the Redcap app and the print version self-screening tool. To view these changes, please refer to the memo from October 1st: <https://bit.ly/ChangestoCOVID-19ScreeningQuestions-Oct-1>. All Hospital COVID-19 updates and resources are available on the iNtranet at <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/covid-19-information/>.

On July 1st, our Hospital initiated a temporary closure of 32 of the 64 beds at the Transitional Care Unit (TCU) in response to downward trending Alternate Level of Care (ALC) to Long-term Care (LTC) patient volumes, and to support acute care staffing challenges at the main TBRHSC site. The impact of this closure has been assessed regularly over the last three months and based on current system flow trends and ongoing staffing requirements the temporary closure of these beds will continue for now. We recognize the importance of working collaboratively with our system partners as we navigate current and future patient care demands while we continue to actively monitor the strategy. As we do this, we will ensure we are able to quickly respond to any change in the patient care demand. We are committed to ensuring that patients are receiving the appropriate level of care in the most suitable care environment. Moving forward, we will consider transitional care bed needs are reflected and aligned with our overall system capacity assessment, models and levels of care, and available health human resources.

Sonography Week (October 3-9) is an opportunity to recognize and promote the profession of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ultrasound) which plays a vital role in the care and treatment of community members. Sonography is also a growing, dynamic profession and sonographers are in demand in hospitals, medical imaging clinics and tertiary health care facilities. Many sonographers are also employed as educators, application specialists or sales representatives with medical equipment manufacturing firms, or as researchers. Join us in thanking the sonography professionals at our Hospital this week for everything they do. For more information about the profession, including a list of accredited training programs, visit the Sonography Canada website: <https://sonographycanada.ca/>

October 3rd to the 9th has been declared as National Health Care Supply Chain Week by the Association for Health Care Resource and Materials Management (AHRMM). This week provides an opportunity for us to recognize and celebrate the hardworking health care supply chain professionals for their selfless dedication to high-quality patient care and exceptional contributions to our Hospital and community. This year's theme is "Health Care Supply Chain | Strategic Partner in Care Delivery". Through every challenge the health care supply chain has faced during the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen incredible collaboration and maximizing scarce resources through a formation of strategic alliances - the true embodiment of advancing

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Thunder Bay Regional  
Health Sciences  
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health care through supply chain excellence. Please join us in thanking Supply Chain and Procurement staff members for their contributions not just during the public health crisis but every day.

Cervical Cancer Awareness Week takes place October 3rd to the 8th. Cervical cancer is almost always preventable. Regular cervical screening can find abnormal cells that could become cancer (called pre-cancers). Finding pre-cancers and treating them can help prevent cervical cancer. Cervical screening should be done every 3 years if you have a cervix, have ever been sexually active, and are between the ages of 25 to 70 years. To learn more about cervical cancer screening, visit [www.cancercaresontario.ca/ccaw](http://www.cancercaresontario.ca/ccaw).

Fire Prevention Week (October 4-8) is a great opportunity to review your department's Code Red sub-plan. This year's Fire Prevention Week theme is 'Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety'. Do you know what our Hospital's Code Red alarm activation and notification sequence sounds like? Visit section [5.1 of the EMER-30 Code Red-Fire Alarm policy](#) to better understand the different alerts and announcements associated with Code Red. Remember, safety starts at home. By law, every home in Ontario must have a working smoke alarm on every storey and outside all sleeping areas however, too often fatal fires in Ontario occur in homes where there were no working smoke alarms. For more information about home fire safety, visit the Thunder Bay Fire Rescue website: <https://www.thunderbay.ca/en/city-services/fire-safety-education.aspx>

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Prevention & Screening Clinical Services at our Hospital, in partnership with Ontario Health-Cancer Care Ontario, is encouraging eligible Ontarians ages 50 to 74 years old to talk to their family doctor or nurse practitioner about getting checked for breast cancer. Studies have shown the COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative impact on breast screenings with a 41 per cent drop in cancer screening tests in Ontario in 2020 compared to 2019 pre-pandemic levels. Fortunately, those statistics are starting to bounce back. For example, in June 2021, monthly breast screening tests were about 9 per cent above June 2019 levels. Every year, approximately 12,000 Ontario women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and approximately 2,000 will die from it. Regular screening is important because it can find breast cancer early when treatment has a better chance of working. To learn more about your breast health and screening options visit [www.tbrhsc.net/cancerscreening](http://www.tbrhsc.net/cancerscreening).

In preparation for our Sharing and Caring Together celebration (October 12-16), Patient and Family Centred Care would like to invite you, our dedicated staff, to participate by submitting patient stories that showcase how you, your unit or department have exemplified Patient & Family Centred Care. Submit your stories by creating a two to three minute video, picture with audio or written description, PowerPoint presentation or other creative representation to <https://tbh.net/sct> by October 11th. Your submission will be displayed in our virtual Sharing & Caring Together Exhibition and your name(s) will be included in the prize draw.

We remain committed to transparency and hope that providing information and answers to your questions support your efforts. The next virtual All Staff Town Hall is taking place on Wednesday, October 13th at 1:00 pm via Webex. We value you and your input. Thank you to those who have already submitted questions. If you have questions you would like answered, please submit them online at <http://tbh.net/thq> and we will do our best to address them. Thank you for your commitment to staying informed and engaged.