

HOSPITAL ACTIVITY UPDATE



December 8, 2021

COVID-19 Status as of 10:00 am:

Total Positive Cases in the Hospital	Positive Cases in the ICU	Active COVID-19 Cases in the TBDHU district	Hospital Staff Vaccination Rate	Our Hospital's Internal Pandemic Response Level
4	2	134	96.4%	Yellow (Protect)

On Monday, December 6th, we communicated to Hospital staff about the implementation of a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy for all employees, credentialed professional staff, active volunteers (including Board members) and learners. Please refer to the memo from December 6th for the full details: <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/informed/mandatory-covid-19-vaccination-policy/>.

As of today, we have 96.4% of staff fully vaccinated. We value every team member but we need to do what is best to protect our patients and the safety of our organization and community. Implementing a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy stands by our philosophy to put patient care and safety at the center of everything we do at our Hospital.

Our Hospital is part of a regional approach for a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy with all 12 regional hospitals across Northwestern Ontario supporting a mandatory vaccine mandate which was endorsed by the Chiefs of Staff and CEOs of all 12 of the hospitals. Implementation of the policy aligns us with our partners in long-term care and over 120 other hospitals throughout the province.

Any staff who need their first, second or third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine may book an appointment with the Hospital's onsite vaccination clinic by visiting <https://tbdhu.canadaehs.com/tbdhu/hospital/>. Appointment dates have been extended to January 14th, 2022 to align with the first dose deadline in the mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy. If there are Hospital staff who are hesitant to be vaccinated due to severe allergies or health concerns, they may be referred to our high-risk vaccination clinic through their primary care provider or a physician at the Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU)'s CLE mass vaccination clinic if they meet the eligibility criteria. Instructions for referral have been provided to all primary care practitioners as well as the TBDHU, along with the referral form. Staff who are looking for more information about the COVID-19 vaccine from experts and trusted sources may visit <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/informed/learn-more-covid-19-vaccine/>.

It is also important that we remain vigilant with hand hygiene and PPE practices in order to protect our staff, patients, and the health care system. All workers (staff, professional staff, volunteers, learners and contractors) at our Hospital are required to wear eye protection in clinical areas (inpatient and outpatient) or when providing patient care in a non-clinical area where two metres cannot be maintained. This means that when any worker enters a clinical area (inpatient and outpatient), eye protection is mandatory at all times.

Eye protection is not required or can be removed ONLY if the Hospital is in Pandemic Response Level Green or Yellow and if the worker is in a private office located in a clinical area; removing their eye protection to disinfect them; in a designated break area where distancing of two metres can be maintained; leaving the clinical area to

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go on break and/or leave the Hospital; or in a non-clinical area (meeting rooms/area) and is NOT within two metres of a patient.

These measures enhance your safety and protect the specialized acute care services we provide to those in need. The Ontario Ministry of Health guidelines indicate that contact with a positive COVID-19 person is considered high-risk if eye protection was not worn. Visitors and patients are also encouraged to wear their own eye protection. Please contact your manager with any questions or concerns.

Finally, 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, December 15th at 2:00 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.

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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