

# COVID-19 UPDATE

## Keeping You Safe



To: All Staff, Professional Staff, Volunteers, Learners and Contractors

From: Jennifer Wintermans, EVP, Communications & Corporate Relations, COVID-19 Lead

Date: December 3, 2021

RE: **Clarification of Eye Protection Guidelines**

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It is 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 Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre 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 go on break and/or leave the Hospital.
- 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.

Thank you for your cooperation and for complying to the above measures.

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