

# COVID-19 UPDATE

## Keeping You Safe



Thunder Bay Regional  
Health Sciences  
Centre

To: All Staff, Professional Staff, Learners and Volunteers  
From: Jennifer Wintermans, EVP, Communications and Corporate Relations, COVID-19 Lead  
Date: January 24, 2022  
RE: **Mandatory Use of Procedure Masks for All Patients (Inpatient and Outpatient) and Essential Care Partners**

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To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, please ensure that **all patients (inpatients and outpatients) and Essential Care Partners are wearing a procedure mask (level 3 or higher) while in the Hospital.**

All patients and Essential Care Partners (ECPs) entering the Hospital:

- Will be provided with a mask (level 3 or higher) at either the Screening Desk or outpatient area including Emergency, Labor & Delivery, and outpatient clinics in other buildings;
- Outpatients and all ECPs must wear a mask at all times, and masks should be replaced when damaged, soiled or wet.

All inpatients must endeavor to wear a procedure mask (level 3 or higher):

- During all interactions with Hospital staff, professional staff, learners and volunteers;
- When being transported out of their room;
- When physical distancing of two meters is not possible (i.e. ambulating to shared washroom);
- Masks will be replaced daily or when damaged, soiled or wet.

Some exceptions may apply, please refer to the '*Inpatient and Outpatient Mandatory Masking Guidance Document*' (<https://comms.tbrhsc.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Guidance-Document-Inpatient-and-Outpatient-Mandatory-Masking-December-15-2021.pdf>) for further details, or contact your manager with any questions or concerns.

Procedure masks are currently available in all patient care areas and Stores will continue to work with departments to ensure a supply of masks are available.

Thank you for your continued commitment to keeping each other and our patients safe.

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