

# HOSPITAL ACTIVITY UPDATE



**February 2, 2022**

COVID-19 Status as of 10:00 am:

|  |     |  |                        |
|--|-----|--|------------------------|
| Total Positive Cases in the Hospital                         | 51  | Current COVID-19 Outbreaks in the Hospital   | 2 (TCU, 1A)            |
| Positive Cases in the ICU                                    | 7   | Percentage of Active Staff, Professional Staff and Volunteers Compliant with 1 <sup>st</sup> dose or Fully Vaccinated as of January 28th | 100%                   |
| Number of Patients on the 3B COVID-19 Unit                   | 31  |  |                        |
| Active Lab Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 in the TBDHU district | 287 | Our Hospital's Internal Pandemic Response Level  | <b>Grey (Lockdown)</b> |

Our Hospital continues to review operational activities to facilitate safe and efficient staffing levels in our ever-changing environment, to safely care for our patients. As part of our response efforts to support the latest surge in COVID-19 positive patient activity, we have been redeploying available staff on a shift-to-shift basis. We will continue to evaluate all operations to determine where we can temporarily reduce other services to redirect staff toward COVID-19 activities. Our first approach is always to seek volunteers, and if you have a willingness to be redeployed then we ask that you please inform your Manager. Redeployed staff will be supported and guided by a Practice/Education Leader or Manager to help coordinate a team approach to patient care.

On January 31st, our Hospital expanded leadership coverage on the COVID-19 Unit to better support all staff who have been redeployed and to support the increased needs. The additional leadership support will be provided throughout the week and on weekends to augment the current leadership and the increasing work load. We thank all staff for their co-operation and flexibility when being assigned to a different patient care area, department or assignment. You are demonstrating incredible commitment to your colleagues and our patients and families.

The full-time Patient Advocate role has been extended until June 30, 2022. The Patient Advocate is a resource for all patients, their care partners, staff, leaders, physicians and volunteers of the Hospital as they assist patients and their care partners (CP) to navigate a complex health care system. The role of the Patient Advocate is to help improve the quality of patient care and to support an exceptional experience for patients and their loved ones. The Patient Advocate can provide a wide range of essential and timely advocacy services for our patients, care partners and staff such as supporting mediation during challenging situations, de-escalate anxiety and frustration, minimize formal complaints and litigation, and improve patient safety, quality of care and patient flow. Information about the Essential Care Partner (ECP) Appeals Process can be found at <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Guidance-Document-Essential-Care-Partner-and-Care-Partner-Guidelines-January-20-2022-v.11.pdf>. The Patient Advocate is available Monday to Friday, from 08:00-16:00 and can be reached by calling 684-6211 (office) or 629-3887 (cell), or through a referral in Meditech.

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, we are reminding all patients (inpatients and outpatients) and ECPs that wearing a procedure mask (level 3 or higher) is required while inside the Hospital. All patients and ECPs will be provided with a mask (level 3 or higher) at either the Screening desk or outpatient area including the Emergency Department (ED), Labour and Delivery, and outpatient clinics in other buildings. Outpatients and all

# HOSPITAL ACTIVITY UPDATE



Thunder Bay Regional  
Health Sciences  
Centre

ECPs must wear a mask at all times, and masks should be replaced when damaged, soiled or wet. All inpatients must wear a procedure mask (level 3 or higher) during interactions with Hospital staff, professional staff, learners and volunteers, when being transported out of their room and when physical distancing of two metres is not possible. Masks will be replaced daily or when damaged, soiled or wet.

February is Heart Month, a time to bring attention to the importance of cardiovascular health, and what we can do to reduce our risk of cardiovascular disease. Heart disease affects approximately 2.4 million Canadian adults, and is the second leading cause of death in Canada. We can all reduce our risk of heart disease by making healthy lifestyle choices, including quitting smoking, eating a healthy and balanced diet, getting enough sleep, exercising regularly, and monitoring blood pressure and cholesterol levels. Heart Month is also an opportunity to recognize the extraordinary team of health care workers at our Hospital who provide world-class cardiovascular care to patients and their families across Northwestern Ontario.

During the month of February we also celebrate Black History Month in Canada, which provides an opportunity to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians and their communities who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate, and prosperous nation it is today. Learn more about Black History in Canada by visiting <http://bit.ly/BlackHistory-Canada>.

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, February 9th at 2:00 pm via Webex. We value you and your input. If you have questions you would like answered, please send them to [tbrhscgroupnews@tbh.net](mailto:tbrhscgroupnews@tbh.net) and we will do our best to address them. Thank you for your commitment to staying informed and engaged.