

COVID-19 UPDATE

Keeping You Safe



To: TBRHSC Contractors and Vendors

From: Brian Cassidy, Manager, Procurement & Strategic Sourcing

Date: April 11, 2022

RE: **Reminder to Service Providers on Accessing the Hospital**

The purpose of this correspondence is to provide those organizations identified as Service Providers direction on the following matters in regards to the services they provide to Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (the "Hospital").

PROOF OF VACCINATION

As a reminder, all workers, including Service Providers, are required to comply with **mandatory vaccination** while working at or for the Hospital to enter the Hospital the Service Provider worker **must provide proof of vaccination** (two doses) against COVID-19. Proof of a negative COVID-19 Antigen test is not accepted as an alternative to vaccination. Service Providers that are not fully vaccinated will not be permitted to enter the Hospital.

Process:

1. Service Providers must present satisfactory proof of their vaccination status on entry to the Hospital as part of the screening process.
2. Non-compliance with this policy will be handled similarly to non compliance with other Hospital policies, which may result in termination of service if appropriate.

TRAVEL

The Hospital will align with the Government requirements for travel – see applicable federal and provincial requirements.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Practices regarding the need for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), hand hygiene and screening continue as per previous correspondence.

All Service Providers must provide their employees with a minimum of a Level 2 Procedure Mask as well as suitable eye protection (i.e. safety glasses or face shield) to be worn when required – based on the signage as posted at the Hospital. Masks are required in all areas of the Hospital except when alone or in areas as designed for eating. Eye wear is required as signed. The mandatory wearing of PPE is to be done in addition to maintaining physical distancing and practicing proper hand hygiene

Further, for those Service Providers that must work in a patient care area where there is suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases, droplet and contact precautions must be used per Hospital Policy. This includes the wearing of a surgical/procedure mask, isolation gown, nitrile gloves and eye protection (safety glasses or face shield).

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Service Providers shall ensure that its employees bring suitable PPE with them to complete their job. PPE information is available from the Hospital's Occupational Health and Safety department as required. On an exception basis where the nature of the work is deemed critical by the Hospital and the Service Provider has identified that it is unable to provide its employees with the required PPE, the Hospital may supply the Service Provider with the PPE.

ACCESS & SCREENING

Services Providers may only enter the Hospital at the request of a Hospital Representative and shall enter the Hospital at either the Shipping and Receiving Entrance ('ramp door') or the Main Entrance only. Service Providers are reminded not to park in fire lanes and to continue to park in provided Contractor Parking or in the general Parking Lots. Sign-in should be completed in the Maintenance Department on the first floor unless other arrangements have been made. Following sign-in, the Service Provider will immediately report to their Hospital Representative to address any required compliance matters including health and safety orientations prior to commencing work.

As per ongoing practice, all Service Provider personnel are subject to screening prior to being approved to enter the Hospital. Screening at the Hospital is guided by Public Health screening guidelines. It should be noted that individuals with identified risk of exposure to COVID-19, or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 will not be eligible for admission to the Hospital.

Access may be permitted in exceptional circumstances where the Service to be provided at the Hospital is deemed critical. A risk assessment must be completed in advance by the Hospital's Occupational Health and Safety department and proper protective measures and controls must be put in place. These protective measures and controls may include but are not limited to additional use of PPE, repairs of equipment in external locations and/or other protective measures and controls as deemed appropriate by the Hospital.

To assist in the screening process, the following visitor online self-screening tool is available for contractors and suppliers at the following link or QR code:

<https://redcap.sjcg.net/surveys/index.php?s=REXKJCLYKF>



Instructions to access the self-screening tool:

1. Use the link above or scan the QR code with your smartphone camera. We recommend bookmarking the link for future use.
2. Complete the questions truthfully.
3. Your results will provide instructions to:
 - a. Proceed to enter; or

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- b. STOP, do not enter and follow the instructions of the onsite screener and Hospital representative responsible for the contracted service.
- c. If you are approved to proceed to enter, please show your self-screening results to the screener at the entrance.
- d. If you fail the screening, please contact your Hospital representative to discuss further.

In the event you have any questions, please contact your primary Hospital representative responsible for the contracted service. If you require further assistance, please contact the undersigned:

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