Pembroke Regional Hospital
MEMO

To: **All Staff and Physicians**

From: **IPAC and Occupational Health**

Date: **October 14th, 2022**

Subject: **COVID-19 Outbreak Declared – 3rd floor Medical**

Today, the Pembroke Regional Hospital, in collaboration with the Renfrew County and District Health Unit, declared a COVID-19 outbreak on the 3rd floor medical unit.

Currently, there are 2 positive COVID-19 cases associated with the outbreak on 3rd medical among the patient population.

As a result of the outbreak, we have instated additional restrictions on visitation for the 3rd medical floor. Restrictions include:

- General visitors will not be permitted during the outbreaks
- One Essential Caregiver may be designated per patient

Please refer to the COVID-19 Caregiver and Visitor Policy for additional information about visitation of patients who are COVID positive. All essential caregivers visiting the Outbreak Unit must be instructed on PPE requirements and use and monitored for compliance.

Staff and physicians are reminded about the importance of universal PPE adherence, handwashing, physical distancing and enhanced cleaning of shared equipment/ spaces.

As a result of the outbreak, all staff and physicians working on the 3rd floor Medical Unit must follow universal masking with a fit tested and seal checked N95 respirator and eye protection at all times. While on the unit, transient staff who do not have direct patient/ visitor interaction are not required to wear an N95 respirator for universal masking but must continue to wear a surgical/ procedure mask and eye protection at all times. As always, staff and physicians are reminded to complete a point of care risk assessment and select the PPE appropriate for the task and situation.

With universal masking and eye protection a requirement, we believe there should be minimal risk to staff and physicians. As per Public Health guidelines, only interactions with the patient within 2 metres for a cumulative period of 15 minutes over 24 hours without appropriate PPE are considered high risk. If you feel that you have had an unprotected high risk contact, please contact the Occupational Health Team (ext 8200) to discuss your situation.

We will be providing additional updates on the situation as required.