

Pembroke Regional Hospital

MEMO

To: All Staff and Physicians
From: Infection Prevention and Control & Occupational Health and Safety
Date: March 8, 2024
Subject: Confirmed Influenza Outbreak- Inpatient Rehab

Today, in collaboration with the Renfrew County District Health Unit (RCDHU), a confirmed Influenza Outbreak has been declared on the Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit.

In accordance with PRH Policy, additional safety measures must be implemented for unimmunized health care workers. The following guidelines apply to all staff (including support services) who are working on the inpatient rehabilitation unit and have not received their annual influenza vaccine this season:

- Additional Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn continuously on the outbreak unit. This includes eye protection at all times and strict adherence to universal masking.

In order to prevent transmission of Influenza, please be mindful of the following safety measures:

- Perform Hand hygiene regularly and in compliance with the 4 moments (before patient/ patient environment contact, before aseptic procedure, after body fluid exposure risk, and after patient/ patient environment contact);
- Ensure shared equipment is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between patients;
- Any patient who develops new respiratory symptoms must be placed on Droplet + Contact precautions, and the physician must be notified;
- Influenza cases must be restricted to their room during the infectious period (ie. while isolated on Droplet + Contact Precautions);
- All unvaccinated patients admitted to the outbreak unit (including new admissions) should be considered for and if appropriate, offered antiviral treatment and influenza vaccination by the most responsible physician.
- All staff and physicians must remove and discard their universal mask when leaving the outbreak unit and don a new mask prior to going anywhere else within the hospital.

The following visitor restrictions are in place for the Rehabilitation Unit:

- General visitation is not permitted;
- Caregivers are permitted for essential reasons only and must comply with masking requirements at all times on the outbreak unit and any additional personal protective equipment that is required based on the posted signage at the entrance to the patient's room;

Any unvaccinated staff member or physician working on the rehabilitation unit who wishes to receive the influenza vaccine and/ or antiviral treatment should contact the clinical resource nurse at ext 6820.

As a reminder to all staff and physicians, the influenza vaccine remains available through the Occupational Health Department. Please contact ext 8200 or email: OccHealth@prh.email to book a vaccine appointment.

Please remain vigilant with universal masking requirements and additional personal protective requirement as indicated by the posted signage to help prevent the spread of infections at PRH.