

PEMBROKE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

MEMO

TO: All Staff and Physicians

FROM: Infection Prevention and Control and Occupational Health and Safety

DATE: May 3rd, 2023

SUBJECT: Updates to Pandemic Response Measures

Effective immediately, the follow pandemic measures have been further modified to align with our Regional partners.

Universal Masking:

1. Masking is **no longer mandatory** in:

- Non-clinical and non-patient facing areas (eg. Finance, HR, Maintenance, Stores, Kitchen, Medical Records)
- Non-patient facing clinical areas (eg. Pharmacy, Lab, MDR)
- Office and meeting spaces

As always, PRH supports the decision of any staff member who chooses to wear a mask within these areas. Masks will remain easily accessible within all areas of the hospital.

Please note:

Masking may be required as per pre-pandemic practices in alignment with Departmental policies and standards. Please speak with your unit manager if you have questions.

This policy change does not apply to work self-isolation (WSI) guidelines. Any staff member or physician returning to work under WSI is expected to be compliant with universal masking in all areas of the hospital for the full 10 day period (or as directed by the OHS team)

2. Masking **remains mandatory** in the following areas:

- All patient-facing clinical areas will continue to mask.
- All common areas (elevators, hallways, stairwells, lobbies), areas where patients are present.

COVID-19 Admission Testing:

PRH will no longer complete universal COVID-19 testing for asymptomatic patients admitted to PRH via countywide admission, transfer, direct admission or repatriation. Staff are reminded to complete COVID-19 screening of these patients upon admission to PRH. All symptomatic patients or patients admitted from an outbreak unit or facility must continue to be isolated (Droplet, Contact + N95) and tested for COVID-19.