

Pembroke Regional Hospital

MEMO

To: All Staff and Physicians
From: IPAC and Occupational Health
Date: October 21st, 2022
Subject: COVID-19 Outbreak Declared – Inpatient Rehab

Yesterday, the Pembroke Regional Hospital, in collaboration with the Renfrew County and District Health Unit, declared a COVID-19 outbreak on the Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit.

Currently, there are 6 positive COVID-19 cases associated with the outbreak on the rehab unit among the patient population.

As a result of the outbreak, we have instated additional restrictions on visitation for the rehab unit. Restrictions include:

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

Visitor restrictions will be reassessed as we progress through the outbreak investigation.

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 Inpatient Rehab Unit must follow universal eye protection for all patient interactions. Staff and physicians are required to follow universal masking using a procedure/ surgical mask and N95 fit-tested and seal checked respirators for all interactions with patients who are suspect or confirmed COVID-19 and in accordance with posted additional precautions signage. As always, staff and physicians are reminded to complete a point of care risk assessment and select additional PPE as required.

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.

Please reference the memo titled “Outbreak Units- PPE Requirements” distributed Tuesday October 18th, 2022 for more information. We will be providing additional updates on the situation as required.