

PEMBROKE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

MEMO

TO: All Staff and Physicians

FROM: Infection Prevention and Control and Occupational Health and Safety

DATE: April 19th, 2022

SUBJECT: Outbreak 3B Medical

In consultation with the Renfrew County District Health Unit, the outbreak on 3B Medical has been declared over. All outbreak management strategies have been lifted.

Rapid identification of positive and exposed patient and staff cases on the medical unit through targeted point prevalence testing and contact tracing was critical to interrupt the transmission of COVID-19. However, the Omicron variant remains highly transmissible and continues to spread very quickly within the community, increasing the likelihood that most people may eventually be exposed to it. As a result, it is not unlikely that PRH may experience additional outbreak situations. We ask all staff and physicians to remain vigilant. Continue to monitor all patients for new/ worsening signs and symptoms of COVID-19, utilize PPE as indicated and appropriately, self monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and do not report to work if you are feeling unwell. It is important that staff remind patients to wear a mask (when able) anytime a healthcare worker is providing direct care and when they have visitors.

Outbreak management during a global pandemic can be extremely challenging and we must learn to adapt and react according to the specific situation. The ultimate goal of outbreak management, however, remains consistent: identify the source of illness, control the outbreak and limit secondary transmission.

We appreciate the collaboration and teamwork of all staff and physicians during this challenging situation and will continue to work together as we navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic.