

PEMBROKE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

MEMO

TO: All Staff and Physicians

FROM: Infection Prevention and Control *K Johnson*

DATE: July 28th, 2021

SUBJECT: Dedicated COVID Unit

With key public health indicators continuing to improve, and the province wide vaccination rates increasing, we have been fortunate to see a decrease in confirmed cases of COVID-19 within our community and region. With the current low numbers of highly suspect and confirmed cases of COVID-19 at Pembroke Regional Hospital (PRH) and the low rates of community based transmission within Renfrew County, a dedicated COVID unit at PRH is no longer required at this time.

We must continue to screen and test patients for COVID-19 according to our current protocols. However, **effective Thursday July 29, 2021**, patients admitted to PRH who are deemed “high risk” due to exposure, presenting symptoms or travel history will now be admitted to the most appropriate inpatient unit instead of the dedicated COVID unit. The health and safety of our staff and patients remains the highest priority. To ensure this, the Clinical Resource/Hospital Charge Nurses and Infection Prevention and Control Teams have worked collaboratively to develop a risk assessment/placement guide which will reduce the risk of exposure and assist with proper patient placement at PRH.

As always, patients who are deemed “medium risk” or “low risk” for COVID-19 according to this guideline, by either the Clinical Resource/Hospital Charge Nurses or Infection Control Teams will be admitted to the most appropriate inpatient units following appropriate additional precautions.

As always, we will be continually monitoring rates and will review needs as we progress forward. We appreciate your assistance during this change. If you have questions or concerns, please contact your departmental Manager or Delegate.

Thank you