

PEMBROKE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

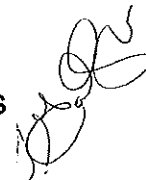
MEMO

TO: All Staff and Physicians

FROM: Occupational Health & Safety/Human Resources

DATE: September 15, 2020

SUBJECT: **Work Self-Isolation for Asymptomatic Healthcare Workers (HCWs) with Sick Household Contacts Pending Test Results**



In alignment with the Champlain Region, and to better assist us in ensuring we have adequate numbers of HCWs to deliver essential clinical services while minimizing COVID-19 institutional risk, we will be working with asymptomatic HCWs identified as a household contact to reduce work schedule interruptions.

Asymptomatic HCWs who are a household contact of someone with COVID-19 compatible symptoms will be able to continue to work under **“work self-isolation”** pending the receipt of the results of testing on the household contact.

This may be modified if community transmission increases significantly as the COVID-19 risk/benefit ratio to institution would change. Any modifications to this will be done in collaboration with Renfrew County Public Health.

Procedure:

1. If a HCW fails COVID-19 screening due to a household contact having symptoms compatible with COVID-19
 - and a. **The HCW is and remains asymptomatic**
 - and b. **The household contact is NOT a known contact of a case of COVID-19**
2. The HCW notifies the institution's Occupational Health and Safety office (extension 8200)
3. The household contact is being tested for COVID-19
4. During the time when the test result of the household contact is pending, the HCW may work in 'Work self-isolation'
5. If the result of the COVID-19 test on the household contact is negative AND the HCW remains asymptomatic then he/she may return to work as per normal without restrictions
6. If the result of the COVID-19 test on the household contact is positive then the HCW is directed to contact public health, isolate at home and not return to work

What you need to know if you are in “work self-isolation”:

While at work, the HCW should:

- Take temperature twice a day (you will be given a tracking form that will need to be completed)
- Travel to and from work in private vehicle or wear a surgical/procedure mask in public transit
- Adhere to universal masking recommendations at all times on the property, maintain physical distancing (remaining greater than 2m/6ft from others) except when providing direct care, and perform meticulous hand hygiene
- Not eat meals or take breaks in shared space with other HCWs
- Not work in multiple locations

Outside of work, the HCW should be in self-isolation and travel directly to and from work.