

## Today's Take-Aways

### News Related To COVID-19

#### Regional Updates

- New comprehensive guidelines on pregnancy care during a pandemic have been issued. New perioperative guidelines have also been released. Both are being reviewed to ensure our practices are in alignment.

- The Repatriation Policy is being reviewed in respect to guidance on how to free up space in Ottawa area hospitals where capacity is an issue by sending patients ready for repatriation to a facility that has space even if it's not their "home" hospital.

- The Region's Medical Officers of Health are expressing concern that people aren't taking COVID-19 screening tools seriously and instead, are still going to work and remaining active in the community while sick.

They are also concerned about the number of people still congregating without distancing in communal spaces such as lunch and break rooms in the workplace.

There may be more to come on this as Public Health looks to put out some communications later this week.

At PRH, staff and physicians are reminded to actively and honestly complete the electronic screening tool prior to every shift and to abide by the new Public Health signage at the staff entrance.

#### Senior Leadership Team

- In response to a number of general concerns raised by Public Health, the Senior Leadership Team will be conducting walk-arounds to as many departments as possible on November 19th to discuss the topics of lunch/break room safety, universal PPE and staff screening.

- Members of the management team have been tasked with developing action plans for their departments which will help ensure that staff are kept safe by preventing the over-crowding of lunch and break spaces.

These plans could include scheduling additional lunch periods. It is anticipated that these plans will be rolled out in the next couple of weeks.



You should **not** enter if you have any of the following symptoms:

- Fever
- Shortness of breath
- Cough (new or worsening)
- Sore throat
- Runny nose/nasal congestion
- Loss of smell or taste
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Abdominal pain
- Chills
- Headache (long-lasting/unusual)
- Conjunctivitis (pink eye)
- Fatigue/feeling unwell
- Muscle aches/pains
- Decreased appetite

For current information on COVID-19, please visit [www.rcdhu.com](http://www.rcdhu.com)



## Today's Take Aways...Continued From Front

### Human Resources

- The department has recently been challenged by turnover in key areas and as a result is thanking staff for their patience as gaps in service are addressed.

### Occupational Health and Safety

- The Flu Vaccine roll-out campaign is going well. Both roaming and stationary clinics are continuing. If staff have not yet received the flu vaccine and would like it they can either call Occupational Health at extension 7202 or connect with them via email (occhealth@prh.email) to schedule an appointment. To date, 324 staff, 38 physicians and 18 others have been vaccinated for a total of 39% of our health care team.



### Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre

- Effective November 17th, EORLA will be the official lab site for all COVID tests, taking over from Public Health's lab. This should improve the turn-around time, resulting in an average time to results of 24-48 hours for swabs done by VTAC.

### Clinical Updates

- Acute Mental Health – The department is preparing a handout that outlines expectations for people bringing children onto the unit for visits where it's deemed to be in the best interest of the patients.

- We are in the process of adopting a risk matrix from the Queensway-Carleton Hospital that enables low-risk patients awaiting the results of their COVID test to be housed on other units in isolation rather than having to be housed on Medical 2A.

## COVID Questions

**Q:** Is there a thought to update the screening questionnaire, for staff especially, regarding non-international travel? Given our location, on the border of Quebec and so close to Ottawa, and the level of community spread in those “red zones” would it not be prudent to become more stringent in screening people who are travelling to those areas (especially if not wearing appropriate PPE for the duration of the visit)? It just seems that the “international travel” question is no longer relevant, given that cases within Canada are keeping pace with cases in some other countries.

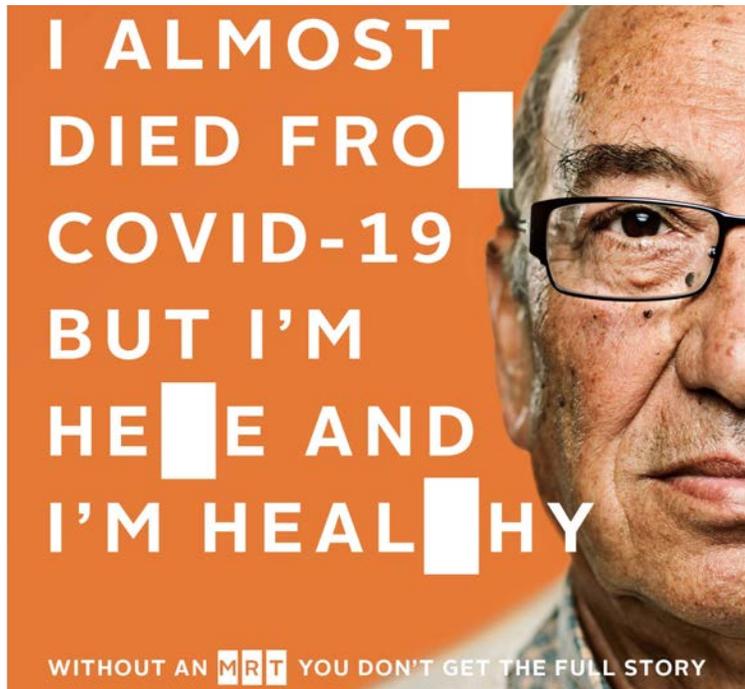
**A:** As per Public Health directives, we will keep the international travel question as there are still people who do travel internationally.

We don't ask staff if they travelled to “hot spots” within Canada because we don't have the ability to do anything if they answer “yes”. There is no Public Health directive to make people self-isolate or get tested if they returned from a “Canadian hot spot”.

## Staff Celebrate MRT Week

This week (Nov 8- 14) is MRT week.

It is a celebration of the work and contribution of the Medical Radiation Technologist (i.e. Xray, CT, MRI, Nuclear Medicine and US) to the health care team.



## COVID-19: How to safely use a non-medical mask or face covering

### Do's



Do wear a non-medical mask or face covering to protect yourself and others.



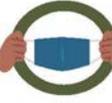
Do ensure your nose, mouth, and chin are fully covered.



Do ensure the mask is made of at least 3 layers, including 2 layers of tightly woven fabric, with a filter or filter fabric between layers.



Do replace and launder your mask after each use, or whenever it becomes damp or dirty.



Do inspect the mask for tears or holes.



Do wash your mask with hot, soapy water and let it dry completely before wearing it again.



Do ensure the mask or face covering is clean and dry.



Do store re-usable masks in a clean paper bag until you wear it again.



Do wash your hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer before and after touching the mask or face covering.



Do discard masks that cannot be washed in a garbage bin after use.



Do use the ear loops or ties to put on and remove the mask.

## CONSTRUCTION CORNER

### Tower A:

- For the 1A north wing, the wall repair contract was issued to Wade Construction who was scheduled to start work this week.
- Quotes were received from the electrical contractors for upgrading the electrical panels and wiring.
- The roofing contractor sealed off the top of the penthouse and the south end, and is near completion of the north end.
- Swipe card access was installed at the AMH nursing station door and an intercom was installed outside the main entrance door.
- The overhead paging was interfaced with the fire alarm bells so that the bells will stop momentarily whenever paging occurs and the bells will restart afterwards.

### Tower B:

- The Rehab roof/deck project is now complete except for the nurse call device. The last items were two accessibility ramps. The contractor is wrapping up the project and will be returning the construction site back to its original state along with the parking lot.

An official opening of the new space which will be available for all patients, visitors and staff, will take place in the spring when the furnishings and other items are in place for use.

### Tower C:

- Door hold open devices on the corridor doors were wired into the fire panel and will now release the doors whenever the fire alarm is activated.

# What is HOMR? What is HOMR positive?

First, it has nothing to do with Infection Prevention and Control.

Pembroke Regional Hospital is taking steps to improve the palliative approach to care. Research tells us that early identification of patients with unmet palliative care needs is key to providing excellent care. PRH is one of 10 hospitals participating in a research project with Bruyère.

The Hospital One-Year Mortality Risk (HOMR) is an application that uses data routinely collected by hospitals to calculate each patient's risk of dying within the next twelve months. This helps clinicians identify patients who are admitted to a hospital with potential unmet palliative needs. PRH has implemented the modified version of HOMR (mHOMR) which is based on nine administrative data points coded by hospitals in their Electronic Health Record at the time of admission.

Last week an electronic flag went live in ANZER. If a patient is flagged as HOMR positive, it identifies patients with potential unmet palliative care needs. The clinical team can then proceed with a plan to arrange Goals of Care discussions. More communication will be coming out within the next few weeks as we begin to involve staff in the planning and implementation on the units.



**CPI Alerts**

**Alerts:**

| Alert | Alert Description       | Date       | Comment                             |
|-------|-------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| HOMR  | HOMR Positive           | 11/07/2020 | Reg#: A*20-02750 , Date: 11/07/2020 |
| MRSA  | MRSA positive           | 03/01/2020 |                                     |
| XX    | Do not try to clear ARO | 03/01/2020 |                                     |

As we begin to roll out the HOMR flagging and education, we want to celebrate Samantha Moreau for working so hard to implement the electronic flag and reporting; Kim Haley for working with her staff to support the mandatory coding required for the HOMR calculation, Janek Trivedi for providing Sam with early input about hospital coding, and Laurie Menard for overseeing the development of the Goals of Care documentation that are key to the clinical workflows prompted by a HOMR positive flag.

The whole project team (Rachel England, Holly Gunn, Coralie Mackay, Laurie Menard, Samantha Moreau, Dr. Declan Rowan and John Saunders) has shown persistence in implementing an important, but challenging project during COVID.



Pembroke Regional Hospital Foundation



Fondation de l'Hôpital Régional de Pembroke

PETAWAWA



**THE PRH STAFF ASSOCIATION PRESENTS  
2020 Family Christmas Party In A Bag**



**Each Holiday Gift Bag Will Include**

- Dominos voucher for a large 2-topping pizza
- A gingerbread decorating kit
- Craft kits (# of kits based on # of children)
- A few surprises

**Each bag (retail value of approximately \$30) will cost \$10 per Staff Association Member or \$25 for Non-Members.**

**There will be a limit of one bag per person.**



**Order Process:  
Reserve your "Party In A Bag" In  
The Finance Office  
(5th Floor, Tower A) Starting  
Thursday, November 12th.  
Cash Sales Only**

**Please indicate the # of children  
that will be doing crafts when you  
sign up.**

**"Party In A Bag" Registration Will  
Close At 4 p.m. November 30th.  
NO EXCEPTIONS**

**Party In A Bag Pickup  
Will Take Place  
Monday, December 7th, 2-4 p.m.  
in The Lunch Box**

**How was your day?**

**Stressful**

**Scary**

**Exhausting**

**Busy**

**Sad**

Healthcare workers are at the front lines of the COVID pandemic. Increased feelings of stress, worry and anxiety are normal under these conditions. Support is available to help you cope.

**COVID Frontline Wellness**

provides confidential access to services and tools to support your mental wellbeing.

Just book an appointment online and one of our clinicians will call you to discuss your needs and connect you with the supports that are right for you.

For more information and to book go to:  
[www.theroyal.ca/covid-frontline-wellness](http://www.theroyal.ca/covid-frontline-wellness)

**It's simple. It's confidential. It will help.**

**If you are a health care worker\* impacted by stress related to COVID-19, please reach out.**

**The Lunch Box**

**WHAT'S ON the MENU**

**For The Period Of**

**November 5th to November 13th**

November 5: Pulled Pork with bun and coleslaw

November 6: Beef Stroganoff with steamed broccoli

November 9: Beef stir fry

November 10: Pizza (pepperoni and deluxe)

November 11: Closed for Remembrance Day

November 12: Hamburger casserole / Taco Wraps

November 13: Lemon Pepper Cod, Baby Red Potatoes

and California vegetable mix

# Employee Discounts



## Looking for staff discounts?

All staff discounts, employee offers, promotional codes and other PRH perks can now be found on the Staff Resources section of the PRH website:

<https://www.pemreghos.org/staffdiscounts>

## What discounts are there?

PRH Staff Association / Insurance Providers  
Local Health and Fitness Facilities / CAA  
Scrubs / Access Perks / Perkopolis  
Park 'n Fly and more...

## Do You Have A COVID-19 Question?

Email: [covid19questions@prh.email](mailto:covid19questions@prh.email)

## Would you like to celebrate or express gratitude to a group or individual?

Email: [celebration&recognition@prh.email](mailto:celebration&recognition@prh.email)

For other questions/concerns, contact Infection Prevention and Control (ext. 7106) or Occupational Health and Safety (ext. 7202).



## Current Facts and Figures

### • Renfrew County:

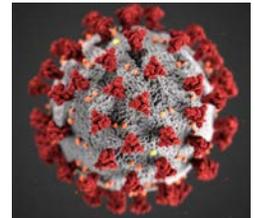
- 9 active cases (2 DR, 3 PEM, 4 PET)
- 0 in hospital, 1 death
- 36,239 tests completed

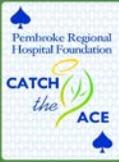
### • Ottawa:

- 537 active cases,
- 346 deaths

### • Ontario:

- 13,366 active cases, 3,260 deaths



**Week #17 Winner**  
*Congratulations*  
**FAYE**  
**ARNOLD**  
Weekly Pot \$2,527

Winning ticket #Q-7605055  
Card #4 - 3 of Diamonds

Catch the Ace Drive Thru Sponsors NOVEMBER

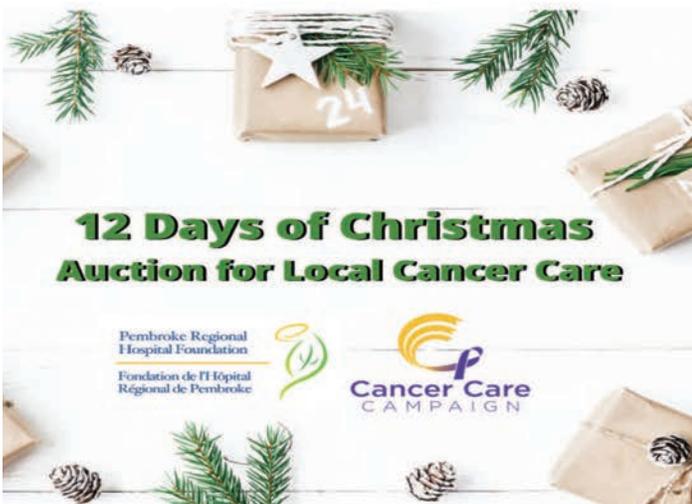
  **THANK YOU!**

Perri-Rae Boell & Associates Inc.

**Week 18 Draw is now LIVE!**  
Jackpot is estimated to be over \$43,000 next week!  
[PRHcatchtheace.ca](http://PRHcatchtheace.ca)

## Foundation News





**12 Days of Christmas Auction for Local Cancer Care**

We know there is a ton of hidden talent, entrepreneurship and creativity here amongst the PRH staff; whether you bake, paint, craft or own your own side business, we would love to feature your items in our auction.

If you are interested in donating an item to our auction, please contact the Foundation office at ext. 7408 or email Leigh Costello at [leigh.costello@prh.email](mailto:leigh.costello@prh.email) by Dec. 8. Auction starts Dec. 9th at noon.