



#### **Today's Take-Aways**

#### A Holiday Message From Our Senior Leadership Team

On behalf of the Pembroke Regional Hospital's Senior Leadership Team, we would like to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and safe New Year.

We recognize that this past year, though unlike the early part of the pandemic, has been filled with its own unique and unprecedented set of challenges, but your efforts and dedication have enabled us as an organization to continue providing high quality care for those in our region.

Without you, this couldn't have happened and for that, we extend our heartfelt gratitude.

We hope that you will each have an opportunity to take some time off over the holidays in order to recharge, celebrate the season and safely spend time with friends and loved ones.

We value each of you and look forward to our continued collaboration in 2023.

Sabine Mersmann, Beth Brownlee, Scott Coombes and Dr. Tom Hurley

#### **Regional Updates**

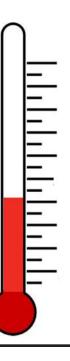
- Transmission of COVID-19 continues to decline throughout the region and, as a result, we are seeing fewer cases amongst our inpatient population, those presenting in the Emergency Department, and among our staff. The presence of other respiratory viruses however, such as influenza and RSV continue to put pressure on our health care system.
- We are anticipating receipt of regional guidance which will update the policies in place regarding staff to patient exposures of COVID-19 which will help alleviate some of them additional precautions we have had to put in place in these circumstances.

#### Flu Shot Campaign

• Thanks to everyone who has helped get our hospital's influenza vaccination rate up to 41% and congratulations to Dr. Sanjeev Chander who was the winner of \$500 cash in our Flu Shot Campaign Draw which took place December 14th. Flu shots are still available by contacting Occ Health at extension 8200.

#### Lean

• It was reported that the hospital's Board of Directors is very pleased and impressed with the work being done to re-launch the use of Lean throughout the organization.



#### **Today's Take-Aways Continued**

Sabine Mersmann, President and CEO also noted the amount of work being done by all in the organization to engage in the reintroduction of huddles, create improvement tickets, work on quality improvement and take the opportunity to celebrate those in the organization for the great work being done.

#### **Holiday Breakfast**

• We would like to extend our appreciation and thanks to our Food Services team who played a major role in enabling us to host a Holiday Breakfast event over the past two days in appreciation for all that you do.

A total of 385 free meals were served, in addition to those that were purchased.

#### **Departmental Updates**

#### **Emergency Department**

• The ED has recently onboarded an additional four Advance Care Paramedics who are welcome additions to the team. Advance Care Paramedics continue to support the ED on the day shift, seven days per week.





#### **Patient Safety:**

Incident reporting is an important component of safety. By reporting potential or actual safety events, Pembroke Regional Hospital (PRH) staff and physicians help prevent recurrences, enhance our understanding of safety risks, and contribute to a culture of safety. This year, PRH staff and physicians completed more than 900 RIMS reports! Numerous improvements have been implemented as a result; including, modifications to clinical processes, enhancements to staff education, the development of new patient facing materials, and updates to PRH policy documents.

The most common types of incidents and near misses reported are medication, documentation, or fall related. In the month of November, 93 patient related incidents and near misses were reported. Of those, 35 were medication related,14 were documentation related, and 10 were fall related.

Remember, at PRH we use a no blame, no shame approach to incident reporting. Reporting incidents and near misses is a key component of improving patient safety.

#### **Accreditation Update**

ACCREDITATION | April 3 to 6, 2023

Patient Safety Culture Survey & Staff Engagement Survey Action Plans

YOUR FEEDBACK TURNED

INTO OUR FOCUS!

+2

NEW ACTION ITEMS COMPLETED! **6/14** 

TOTAL
ACTION ITEMS
COMPLETED



#### What's new and how are we doing it?!

- 1. A standard process for incident investigation (RIMS reports) was developed and is expected to be used by all members of the management team when completing incident report reviews.
- 2. All newly hired staff will now participate in a Patient Safety education session as part of Corporate Orientation.

Why, what's the goal/objective(s)?!

Outline roles, responsibility & emphasize "no blame, no shame" approach to our incident reporting using the RIMS system.

Cultivate a culture for patient safety incident reporting that emphasizes facts and responsibilities over blame.



## Starts Dec 15. 22 Hospital Wide!

#### KAHOOT! SCAVENGER HUNT

STOP AND TAKE THE CHALLENGE

Come find the 'floating' education resource center for ALL THINGS accreditation. Q-Tips included!

Test your knowledge at with our Kahoot challenge to see

Test your knowledge at with our Kahoot challenge to see who raises to the top.



**LOCATION RIDDLE:** Before heading out today, come check out the smallest 'unofficial' mascot in the building. They are waiting for you decked out with a holiday grin; join in on the challenge to see who will win!



#### **ACCREDITATION HUB HAS LAUNCHED!**

ONLINE-VIRTUAL HUDDLE BINDER

Central space for all information related to Accreditation to be hosted. The HUB will be located within the Staff Resources Section of the PRH Website. Less paper with increased accessibility!

www.https://www.pemreghos.org/accreditationhub



#### **KEY INFORMATION ARTICLES**



TAKE THE QUIZ AND SELF-REFLECT

Articles are written by frontline staff. They are short descriptions of important topics that highlight PRH processes, procedures and systems that are applicable to supporting accreditation standards. They include information with direct access to PRH policies, FAQs & more.

A self-reflective quiz is included to test your knowledge of the topic.



#### **OUICK TIP CAMPAIGN**

**EMBEDDED INTO ARTICLES!** 

Q-Tips are pocket-sized cards that outline key information about a PRH process in a condensed format. They are hidden in Accreditation articles within PRH Accreditation Hub.

ACCREDITATION | April 3 to 6, 2023

MORE INFROMATION CONTACT DANIELLE.RAE@PRH.EMAIL KIRSTEN.JOHNSON@PRH.EMAIL

# Win! Grand Prize

#### Participate in the Quick-Tip Campaign

Q-Tips are pocket-sized cards that outline key information about a PRH process that are hudden in various Accreditation promotional & educational material. When you find the collectible Q-Tip, download it-save it to your P-Account; screen shot it on your desktop or phone. Just make sure your collection is saved where you can find them later.

At the end of our survey preparation staff members who saved ALL of the Q-Tips (physical or virtual format), will be entered to win a PRH clothing item! Keep a close eye out for them!



#### Take a moment to self-reflect

Self-reflection quizzes are embedded into the Key Information Articles. Many articles will be released with a link to a 3-4 question self-reflection quiz to rest your own knowledge. The questions are related to the 'need to knows' of the topic as it relates to our upcoming Accreditation survey.

Submission of your name at the end of the quiz is all we need to for you to be entered into our weekly prize. We will be giving away a variety of different gift cards (valued at \$10.00) to one winner weekly.



#### Participate in the hospital wide Kahoot! Scavenger Hunt

Come find the 'mobile' education resource center for ALL THINGS Accreditation. Learn everything and anything you need to know and join out Kahoot! (game-based) challenge and quizzes to see who raises to the top.

Participants will be entered into a monthly gift card raw (valued at \$15.00), with bragging rights going to our top Podium winners.









ACCREDITATION | April 3 to 6, 2023

## The PRH Staff Association Presents: A Christmas Gift For Its Members

Next week, **ALL** active Staff Association members will receive a 60 ml bottle of *Oatmeal, Milk & Honey Rescue Hand Cream* and a *Shower Steamer* in one of three randomly distributed scents (Lavender, Eucalyptus and Sweet Orange) from The Bath Boutique in Pembroke.



#### No pre-orders are required.

Distribution is scheduled to take place Monday, December 19th during which time departments will receive packages of product along with a list of Staff Association members who are eligible to receive one.



Your assistance in distributing these gifts and ensuring only those on the list receive one is greatly appreciated.

# AVERY MERRY CHIRLSTAAS and Happy New Year!



# Merry Christmas From The Pembroke Regional Hospital

In appreciation for all that you do, and in recognition of the challenges you have all faced,

the Pembroke Regional Hospital will be gifting all of its active staff and physicians with beautiful matte finish PRH water bottles this year.

A random assortment of bottles in black, blue, red and green will be delivered to each department for distribution based on numbers provided by HR and Medical Affairs.

We are anticipating delivery of these throughout the organization December 20th and 21st.

Your assistance in ensuring fair distribution of these gifts at the unit level is greatly appreciated.

### **Foundation News**

Pembroke Regional Hospital **Foundation** 



#### **Guardian Angels**



Crystal Kranz

Thank you for everything you did to make René's last days bearable. You took the time to talk, explain and found a nice big room. There should be more nurses like you. You make a difference. You care.



Rachel Blair

Thank you for the care you took of our mother while she was in the hospital. You made mom feel cared for, and the family always took comfort when you were her nurse because we knew mom would be well looked after.



Danielle Malone

I wanted to thank
Danielle for all her hard
work ensuring that our
stroke prevention clinic
runs smoothly. She is
efficient, smart, kind
and I rely on her. Thank
you for making my life
easier and for helping
so many patients.



Vanessa Steeves

Thank you for all your kindness and going above and beyond to care for me.



Week #10— \$15,000 estimated Jackpot! www.PRHcatchtheace.ca



www.PRH5050.ca

Deadline Dec 20th @ 11am

Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year
from the Foundation Team



#### **CELEBRATIONS**

To include a special message in this section, email celebration&recognition@prh.email.

**Correction:** Please note that there was an error in the December 1st edition of The Pulse in which Emily Garrett was named in a celebration but it should have been Emily Hamilton.

- Medical Daycare and Systemic Therapy would like to thank **Alexis Weisenberg (Purchasing)** for being instrumental in the set-up and continued success of our chemotherapy program. Her quick learning and organization have helped to make the program the valuable community resource it is today. We will miss you! Medical Day Care Staff and Management (past and present). *Julia Reddy*
- The Senior Leadership Team recently celebrated the following departments for holding their scheduled huddles at least 80% of the time:

**Ambulatory Clinics** - 80%

**AMH** - 100%

Clinical Admininstration - 100%

**Mental Health Services of Renfrew County - Case management - 100%** 

Food Services - 100%

**Environmental Services - 90%** 

Finance - 100%

**Human Resources - 100%** 

**Inpatient Rehab** - 89%

**Materials Management** - 80%

**MDR** - 100%

**Patient Information - 100%** 

- Celebrating **Thea Nicolai, Caroline Froment, Erin Van Allen and Greg Tate** for their timely contribution towards creating and communicating the new Standard Work for Blood and Blood Product Transfusions. *Laurie Menard*
- Thank you to **Danielle Rae** for developing the Bedside Rounds posters for the Medical unit. You did an amazing job! *Kelly Malley*
- Thank you to **Michael Peters SW and Tim Gorr HCA** for supporting a palliative patient during end of life. *Kelly Malley*
- A patient who was on Medical floor for over two weeks wanted to thank the **whole Medical team** for their exemplary care during her stay. She couldn't remember everyone's name though she wanted to highlight **Cheryl McCrea**, **Vincent Charbonneau-Martel and nursing student Sam**. Thank you to everyone who helped her recovery be that much easier on her. *Amanda Godin*
- Darlene K. of JOHS wants to commend the **Surgical Floor** for their effort in cleaning their hallway during the Dec. 2 fire drill.
- Katie Hollahan recently celebrated **Katie Fadock** for all her help and education on how to schedule Persantine tests. Thanks to Katie for all of her ongoing diligence and support!
- Carolyn Levesque recently celebrated **Sarah Mellish** for her ongoing tremendous support, not only as a sounding board but also for her assistance with a variety of tasks.
- Beth Brownlee recently celebrated **Nancy Methot** for her great work around decorating the admin wing.

#### **CELEBRATIONS**

- Beth Brownlee celebrated **Carolyn Levesque** for helping organize the Holiday Breakfast. This was a lot of work by all involved but was greatly appreciated by so many of our staff and physicians.
- Congratulations to **Josie Huntley RN** for completing the PRH internal training requirements, modules, and exam for critical care orientation ICU. Josie has been an asset to the team! *Martin, Kaley, and Erin*

Previous staff who have completed PRH critical care training include, but are not limited to:

Chantel Rehkopf (ICU)

Autumn-Lee Patovirta (ICU)

Caitlin Morrison (ICU)

Carissa Genrick (ICU)

Allyssa Rabishaw (ICU)

Zacharie Villeneuve (ICU)

Emily Milligan (ED)

Rachel Campbell (ED)

Sarah Williams (ED)

Riley Dickson (ED)

Pamela Dawson (ED)

Laura Geiger (ED)

Megan Keuhl (ED)



• LDRP would like to celebrate **Anne H. from Environmental Services**. She always goes above and beyond and at times stays late to make sure that we are always prepared!

## PRH CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WEEK 2022 It's Time To Have A Little Holiday Fun

Send selfies/team photos to pr@prh.email or schedule a photo by calling extension 6165



**December 12 - Holiday Sweater Day** 

**December 13 - Door Decorating Day** 

December 14 - Holiday Sparkle/Sequin Day

**December 15 - Red and Green Day** 

**December 16 - Christmas Accessory Day** 

# LEAN <u>///</u>



During their recent Gemba walk, the Senior Leadership Team had the privilege of touring the new sterile compounding rooms in Pharmacy.

Once complete, our Pharmacy will have state-of-the-art hazardous and non-hazardous clean rooms each with their own ante-room as per best practices.

Tina Davidson, Chief Pharmacist, explained that, in order to meet the high standards for sterile preparation, a very complex air handling unit has been installed and is currently undergoing testing to ensure 30 air exchanges per hour in the clean rooms while maintaining proper air pressure differentials between designated areas.

Throughout the design and construction phases of these rooms, PRH has had access to several subject matter experts, including our Sterile Compounding Supervisor from CHEO, to ensure that these facilities will meet all aspects of the stringent standards.

This type of construction project is very complex and has been further complicated by ongoing supply chain issues. Very specific clean room grade construction materials, including paint and caulking, are required to be used in these rooms.

With additional hazardous and non-hazardous hoods having been installed, our entire Pharmacy team is very much looking forward to opening these facilities knowing that we will be well positioned for growth in our ability to prepare sterile products.

# **Equity | Diversity | Inclusion**

#### **Upcoming Recognition and Celebration Dates**

December

Dec. 18 Hanukkah

Dec. 25 Christmas Dec. 26 Kwanzaa Dec. 26 Boxing Day January

New Year's Day - January 1

Bell Let's Talk Day (Mental Health) - January 26

#### Tower A:

- Commissioning is still ongoing for the 5th floor *Cancer Care Project* for Pharmacy. We are experiencing issues with air balancing and pressurization of the sterile rooms which is affecting the operation of the bio hoods. Stainless steel trim along the walls above the terrazzo will also be installed.
  - Both A515 and A516 men's and women's washrooms were painted.
- Regarding the *Surgical Day Care Project*, occupancy was received for the new chapel. Demolition work in the old chapel involving the removal of the concrete slab on the altar has been completed. Other demolition is ongoing on the 3rd floor. A second major medical gas shutdown was required on Dec. 6 to install additional gas shut off valves.
- Lighting was installed in the 4th floor Rotunda and a purchase order was issued to a mechanical contractor for the plumbing upgrades. Asbestos abatement was completed on the heating lines in the ceiling of A355 in order to remove the wall heaters in the Nursery.
- Access control was installed in 2nd Medical on the South and West stairwell doors. This was to prevent patients from exiting into the stairwells which was flagged as a safety risk issue.

#### Tower B:

- The new Fluoro equipment was installed and is being tested. A new electrical transformer was received and installed.
- Access control was installed on the DI Registration door and on the corridor door next to meeting room B017.
  - The Staff Lounge in Rehab B145 was painted.

#### D'Youville Warehouse:

• The leveller was moved outwards in the loading dock in order to make it safer to unload smaller trucks.

## **Emergency Preparedness**

#### **Code Green:**

Our annual Code Green/vulnerable occupancy drill was held on Dec. 7th with the Pembroke Fire Department in attendance.

Every year, this drill must be completed and we are required to demonstrate our competence in evacuating a unit, while following the regulations under the Fire Marshall's Office of Ontario.

The ICU was tasked with completing the evacuation this year. We are proud to say that the evacuation went extremely well, and the fire department was very pleased with our drill.

The ICU team made up of Carissa, Laura, Jeris, Pauline, and Catrina did an incredible job evacuating their unit in lightning speed.

Also, the Command Centre team made up of Merina, Kelly, Madison, and Katie demonstrated excellent problem solving and clear communication.

We would like to celebrate these individuals for the time they dedicated to preparing for the drill. Their participation led to a successful evacuation!

#### LAB TIPS

Super user: Jamie-Lynn ext.8991

#### Collection Times (7days/week):

0600hrs, Morning Rounds /1000hrs Rounds /1300hrs Rounds /1600hrs Rounds / 2000hrs Rounds

#### **Timed Collections**

Collections requiring a scheduled time, e.g. timed Troponins, Therapeutic drugs pre dose collections, etc. (requiring clinical timing), please input the time of when the lab draw is required.

\*reminder that pre-dose drug levels, such as Vancomycin, require blood draws 30-mins prior to the scheduled administration for the drug. Ex. if a Vancomycin level is required and the dose is scheduled at 1000, enter the timed lab for 0930.

#### STAT Collections

STAT collections must be limited to life threatening situations so that prioritizing can address the patients with the most critical needs.

Stat labels now print out yellow in the lab.

#### **Public Health Requisitions:**

- Covid swabs need the COVID Public Health Requisition (the one in the covid test kits) and be inputted in the system.
  - All other Public Health samples needs Public Health Requisition & be inputted in the system.

#### Pathology & Cytology:

 Pathology and cytology specimens require paper requisitions and NOT entered on the system (same as EKG).

#### EKG's

- Only paper requisitions & not needed to be inputted into the system.
- EKG requisitions need to be brought up to the lab (lab not picking up).

#### **Blood Products:**

- Blood product transfusions are put on computer system now (no paper requisitions).
- When adding blood products for transfusion type in "products" to bring up all blood products.
- A screen will pop-up when sending blood product requests asking how many units is required.
- For C1 esterase inhibitor (used in treatment of angioedema), it is from the blood bank and will need to be inputted as "blood products other" and specify.
- When picking up blood products from the blood bank, bring a patient label/ stamp of the blue card and your employee ID. The lab will scan your badge and require 2 patient identifiers for verification.

#### Add-Ons:

• For blood work already drawn, make sure it is put under ADD ON into the system.

#### **Urgent Bloodwork:**

• If entering urgent, put in a time into the comment section or just enter it as timed to ensure it gets done when needed.

#### Other Tips:

- Urine Tox Screen: Drugs of abuse screen NOT urine tox on system.
- All orders should come up as green on bed board which indicates it has been sent to lab.

#### LAB TIPS CONTINUED

- If orders are on hold, they are not sent to lab. It usually appears as an off-white colour on the system.
  - Unable to make order sets, such as "ICU routine", until standardized processes are in place.
  - Swabs need to be brought up to the lab (lab not picking up).
- No Microbiology requisitions anymore, all on the computer. It will prompt you questions on the reason, antibiotics in use, site, etc.
- Make sure barcodes are present on labels and ensure they are flat and scan-able on specimen containers.
- There have been technical issues where barcodes are not printing on specimen labels. If this happens, ensure that the date and time is present on the label, as well as a P #.
  - SEND to get printed stickers, even if not yet collected or else it will be on HOLD.
- Influenza and respiratory panel can be sent on the same swab as the covid swab. It will print two labels but only one will properly fit on the swab tube, therefore leave one unattached and in the specimen bag.
- There is no "respiratory virus panel" (to test for all respiratory viruses such as RSV, etc.) on the system on the Anzer (nurse's) end. The respiratory viruses are however all tested when putting the swab under "influenza".
- If you need to print another label, you can do so by right-clicking over the specimen order on "Order details" and select "Print specimen label".



#### Thanks To MyFM And Local Businesses For Project Poinsettia

A huge thank you to MyFM and local businesses who sponsored Project Poinsettia. MyFM co-op student Sierra Levesque delivered 25 beautiful pots of flowers to our hospital today. They have been distributed to six patient units and will be greatly appreciated by staff and patients as they make the space more festive!

# Christmas Angel Sponsorships

Thanks to everyone who contributed items to the Christmas Angel program this holiday season!

As a result, PRH sponsored a total of 45 children and also collected some extra gifts for those in need.





# Merry Christmas And Best Wishes For A Healthy And Happy 2023! From the Administration, Patient Services, Medical Affairs and Foundation Teams!



# German Exchange Students Take Home Wonderful Memories Of Time Spent At Pembroke Regional Hospital

This fall, the Pembroke Regional Hospital was given the unique opportunity to host Alicia Haussuehl and Ellen Kruse, students from Germany who are in the equivalent of their final year of high school and are both planning to pursue careers in the medical field.

"It was a great pleasure to host Alicia and Ellen. They are eager learners and they set clear goals for what they wanted to experience and learn here and I hope we exceeded their expectations," said Julia Reddy, Clinical Manager of Ambulatory Clinics and Vascular Health Programs who, together with Sonya Silver, Manager of Rehabilitation and Geriatric Services, helped coordinate their four week placement at PRH.

Julia said it was interesting to learn about how health care is delivered in Germany and to be able to have conversations about the similarities differences between our two countries.

"I believe they had a well-rounded experience in both outpatient and inpatient settings with many providers across many disciplines. I wish them luck in all of their future endeavours and I know they will go far!"

#### Alicia and Ellen's experience included time spent in:

- Orthopaedic Clinics
- Outpatient Physiotherapy and Cardiac Rehabilitation
- Emergency Department and Zone B
- Pharmacy
- Diagnostic Imaging
- Clinics
- · Geriatric Day Hospital
- Systemic Therapy

#### In their own words...



Alicia left, and Ellen on a local hiking excursion.

*Alicia Haussuehl* lives in Johannisberg, Germany, located near Frankfurt, where she is in her final year of secondary school at Internatsschule Schloss Hansenberg.

She plans to pursue a career in health care as a physician in the field of neurology because she is fascinated by the human brain, how it works and how disease affects it. "I want to perform important work that brings great benefits for people and at the same time I want to do clinical research on how to improve our medical treatment."

Alicia had a great time at PRH where "everybody was super kind to me and took their time to help me and show me what they were doing" while working together to insure delivery of the best possible patient care.

There are a few things that surprised her throughout her experience, the first being the amount of time and patience committed towards individuals during their care and the way in which staff from different departments work together and share information. She added that she was also surprised to learn how many staff support the health care team and work behind-the-scenes for the patient as well.

Outside of her hospital experience, Alicia also enjoyed a taste of Canadian living through local hikes, a hockey game, a visit to Parliament Hill, and other local activities that took part in the height of Canadian fall.

#### **German Exchange Students Take Home Wonderful Memories**

**Continued from page 15** 

**Ellen Kruse** attends Schloss Hansenberg, a boarding school in Geisenheim located in the German state of Hesse.

While her goal coming into the exchange was to pursue a pharmaceutical career since it combines skills in medicine, chemistry and biology, the time she spent with our radiologists was fascinating and enticing enough to have her now explore the idea of going into medicine to become a radiologist.

"I had an amazing experience at PRH where I had the opportunity to see so many different departments and gain a good overview on careers in the medical field," Ellen said.

Most surprising, she said, was the incredible level of collaboration she witnessed between staff of all disciplines.

She said that shadowing so many members of our health care team who all welcomed her warmly and shared as much as they could, enabled her to get a good grasp on how processes work and which roles everyone plays for the good of the patient.

What she enjoyed most about seeing this part of Canada was the natural beauty through visits to High Falls, Chutes Coulonge, and the Barron Canyon. Ellen said she found Canadians to be very friendly and welcoming.



#### Holiday Donation To SHARE Program

Thank you to the Northern Credit Union, Pembroke Branch, for their generous donation of \$790 to our SHARE program (Self Help through Awareness, Recreation and Entertainment).

SHARE is a support group in which members living with mental illness share and provide emotional and social support to each other.

Pictured is SHARE Coordinator Helen Mcleod, purple sweater, accepting the cheque.

PRH Sunshine Gift Shop presents it's

# 20 DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS SALES EVENT

Sunday, DEC 4th UNTIL Saturday, DEC 10th

30% OFF ALL CHRISTMAS\*

Sunday, DEC 11th UNTIL Saturday, DEC 17th

40% OFF ALL OUTERWEAR & CHRISTMAS\*

Sunday, DEC 18th UNTIL Friday, DEC 23rd

50% OFF ALL REGULAR PRICED

MERCHANDISE\*\*

\*plus staff and volunteer discount

\*\*no further discount

Closed December 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>



