

PEMBROKE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

MEMO

TO: All Staff and Physicians

FROM: Kirsten Johnson, Clinical Manager Infection Control

DATE: January 27th, 2023

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Outbreak Declared –2A Medical

Today, the Pembroke Regional Hospital, in collaboration with the Renfrew County and District Health Unit, declared a COVID-19 outbreak on the 2nd Medical Unit.

Staff and physicians are reminded about the importance of universal PPE adherence, handwashing, physical distancing and enhanced cleaning of shared equipment/ spaces.

While there are no additional restrictions on visitation to the affected unit at this time, visitors must be made aware that the unit is currently experiencing an outbreak of COVID-19 and must be compliant with masking and other PPE as indicated.

As a result of the outbreak, all staff and physicians working on the 2nd Medical Unit must follow universal eye protection for all patient interactions. Staff and physicians are required to follow universal masking using a procedure/ surgical mask and N95 fit-tested and seal checked respirators for all interactions with patients who are suspect or confirmed COVID-19 and in accordance with posted additional precautions signage. As always, staff and physicians are reminded to complete a point of care risk assessment and select additional PPE as required.

All patients admitted to the 2nd Medical Unit (South Wing) during the time of the outbreak must be placed on Droplet, Contact + N95 precautions and receive admission testing for COVID-19.

With universal masking a requirement, we believe there should be minimal risk to staff and physicians. As per Public Health guidelines, only interactions with the patient within 2 metres for a cumulative period of 15 minutes over 24 hours without appropriate PPE are considered high risk. If you feel that you have had an unprotected high risk contact, please contact the Occupational Health Team (ext 8200) to discuss your situation.

We will be providing additional updates on the situation as required.