



PEMBROKE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

MEMO

TO: All Staff and Physicians

FROM: Kirsten Johnson
Clinical Manager, Infection Control, Policy and Procedure,
Clinical Placements

DATE: January 13th, 2023

SUBJECT: Universal COVID-19 Admission Testing

Effective Monday January 16th, 2023, PRH will no longer be requiring universal COVID-19 testing for all admitted patients.

Patients arriving to the hospital through the Emergency Department must continue to be screened for signs, symptoms and exposure to COVID-19. If COVID screening is failed, patients must be placed on additional precautions (Droplet, Contact + N95) and if admitted to the hospital, tested for COVID-19. Patients who are asymptomatic and have not had an exposure to COVID-19 will no longer require universal testing.

All patients admitted directly to an inpatient unit from another acute care facility (including repatriations, transfers, direct admissions, and countywide admissions) must continue to be tested for COVID-19 upon admission to PRH and be placed on Droplet, Contact + N95 precautions.

Patients admitted directly to the hospital from the community (ie. Labour and Delivery, same day surgical patients) must continue to be screened for COVID-19 using the "COVID-19 Screening Form".

This change in policy will better align PRH admission practices with our regional partners.

With various respiratory illnesses circulating within our community and region, it is important to complete thorough acute respiratory infection (ARI) and COVID screening on all patients admitted to the hospital and to initiate additional precautions as indicated. This includes closely monitoring patients for new onset signs and symptoms of respiratory illness once admitted.

If you have questions, please contact a member of the Infection Control Team ext 7106.