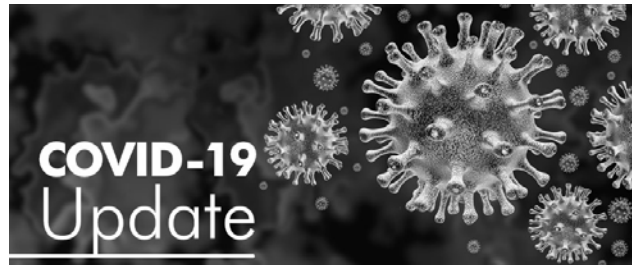


# PEMBROKE REGIONAL HOSPITAL



**DATE:** April 6th, 2020

**SUBJECT:** COVID-19 Update #19

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**Today's Take-Aways:**

- In order to ensure transparency throughout the organization, we are now going to be including regular updates of the number of patients in our care who are probable and confirmed cases of COVID-19. Today's numbers are: 11 probable housed on Medical 2A, and two probable in ICU.
- We are currently experiencing a shortage of surgical/procedure masks. We will soon provide a more detailed, regular update on the supply status of priority items so that everyone has an understanding of the situation with PPE (personal protective equipment).
- In appreciation for the difficult and challenging times our staff and physicians are facing, and as a small token of appreciation for all our "essential" workers who contribute in every way, the hospital is waiving the parking fees for staff and physicians this month. As a result, parking fees will not be deducted in April.
- PRH is now involved in non-acute care planning at a regional level, particularly to look at how to manage patients awaiting long-term care beds if there are COVID-19 outbreaks in those homes and we need alternate space to house them.
- Hospitals in the Ontario Health East – Champlain District are working together to create a regional patient flow strategy to care for patients. Evaluating patient flow as a region will allow hospitals to maintain access for patient care across the care continuum and ensure that no area of the health system becomes overwhelmed by the COVID-19 outbreak.

Patient flow across the region will be coordinated by a single command centre. Hospitals will transfer COVID-19 positive patients who need acute or critical care to a select number of designated hospitals. Patients who do not require this level of care will be transferred out of acute and critical care hospitals to the most appropriate hospital setting.

- Staffing Office personnel are striving to maintain work processes while adhering to social distancing where possible. Effective immediately, employees are requested to submit all paperwork electronically. Electronic submissions will alleviate the need for

paperwork being handled multiple times. All forms may be faxed to (613) 732-6348 or emailed to [hrstaffing@prh.email](mailto:hrstaffing@prh.email). This includes, but is not limited to, Time Off Requests, Sign In by Exceptions, OT Slips, Exchanges, and Availability Forms. Please refrain from forwarding the original paper copies. Employees requiring a new or replacement badge are to phone extension 6155, or email the staff office to arrange.

- In addition to the outpouring of community support through donations of much-needed PPE items, local restaurants, business owners and individuals have reached out, offering to provide food and treats for our staff. The Communications working group is developing a fair and scheduled distribution process to facilitate these offers so that as many staff as possible will benefit. Stay tuned for more details.
- Thanks to increased capacity for testing, EORLA (Eastern Ontario Regional Laboratory Association) has shared that their public COVID-19 testing turnaround times have now been reduced to 24 to 30 hours.
- Today's video features a montage of some early images of our hospital's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As time goes on, we hope to capture and share more images of our team at work in these challenging times.

<https://youtu.be/7Bjl0qMrnIY>

- In Renfrew County there have been nine laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 and one death to date. There have been 533 people tested, with 161 still under investigation. For the latest Renfrew County information on COVID-19, please visit [www.rcdhu.com](http://www.rcdhu.com).
- In Ontario, as of today, there have been 4,347 laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19. There have been 132 deaths and 1,624 cases have been resolved. A total of 598 patients are hospitalized, 216 of those in ICU and 160 of those on ventilator. A total of 78,796 people have been tested and 329 remain under investigation. For up-to-date information on provincial COVID-19 statistics, please visit [www.ontario.ca](http://www.ontario.ca).
- For all COVID-19 related questions, please be sure to email them to **covid19questions@prh.email** rather than sending them directly to Infection Prevention and Control. Before you send a question, check the Staff Resources section of our website ([pembrokeregionalhospital.ca](http://pembrokeregionalhospital.ca)) to see if the question you are asking has already been asked and answered. Questions and answers are posted and organized by date.

### **Need information, assistance or have suggestions?**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Infection Prevention and Control at extension 7106 or Occupational Health and Safety at extension 7202 or your immediate supervisor.

If you have any suggestions on COVID-19 preparation, please bring these forward at your huddles or to your supervisor.

Recognizing the stress and anxiety that a situation like this can bring about, we remind you that our Employee Assistance Program (EAP) has experts available to help by calling 1-844-880-9142 or visiting their website at [www.worklifehealth.com](http://www.worklifehealth.com).

Mental health workers are now offering free therapy to Ontario's frontline COVID-19 staff. For more information visit <https://covid19therapists.com/>.