

Today's Take-Aways

- In order to safely increase the capacity for admissions of probable and confirmed COVID-19 patients, surgical and medical patients, along with staff for both programs, are going to be temporarily co-located on Medical 3B. Preparations for this began today, with the planned move to take place on Monday.
- Ontario Health has issued further clarification about the approach that would be taken to implement the reuse and reprocessing of PPE should this become necessary and only once the scientific analysis has been completed:
 1. When the evidence related to conservation and reprocessing of PPE is at a sufficient state of maturity, government and employers in consultation with bargaining agents will collaborate on the development of provincial guidance or direction.
 2. Evidence-based provincial guidance and policy would then be issued to health care organizations and providers in support of evidence-based practice.
 3. Local implementation of provincial guidance and policy would occur at the facility level with communication with joint health and safety committees for implementation.
- In terms of current PPE supplies, we are still monitoring the status of a couple of items closely. A large shipment of surgical/procedure masks for the region has been received in Ottawa and we should benefit from that. Additionally, local manufacturer SRB Technologies has been able to adapt its production line to include the manufacture of face shields. They are currently awaiting Health Canada approval and once received will likely be able to supply PRH as well as other facilities in the region.
- Ontario Health has issued a statement on the use of fabric and cloth masks for healthcare workers. "Ontario Health does not recommend the use of homemade fabric/ cloth masks by healthcare workers. Fabric/cloth masks are not able to provide the same level of protection and air filtration as surgical/ procedure masks or N95 respirators. There is variability in their functionality and manufacturing (eg. Fabric type, filter insert). While there may be some utility for use by the general public, fabric/ cloth masks are not a suitable alternate source of PPE for health care workers."
- There have recently been several new directives from Ontario Health pertaining to long-term care and retirement homes. These include direction on the transfer of patients from hospital to long-term care and retirement homes and other ways those who are at highest risk can be supported.
- There is significant work being done to look at the possibility of introducing online daily screening for staff. More details to come.

Today's Take-Aways...Continued from front

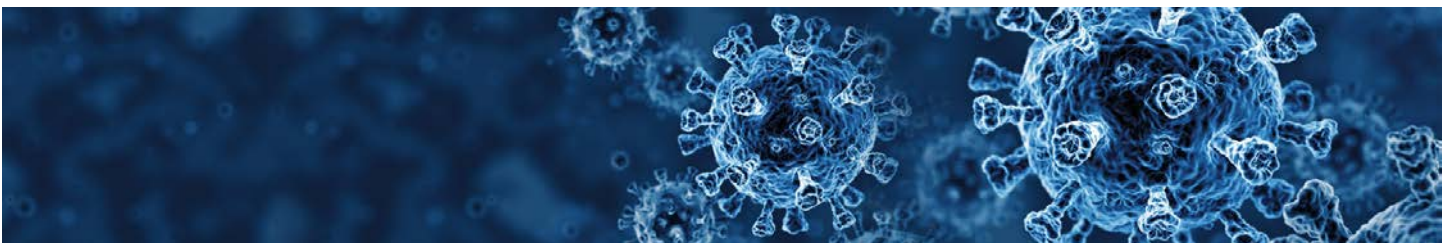
- During the COVID pandemic there has been a drastic increase in the use of metered dose (MDI) inhalers which has led to a decrease in availability of this product. As a result, hospitals are being asked to consider conservation strategies including the collection of used MDIs for potential future reprocessing. At this time, PRH has a sufficient stock of MDIs but we need to continue with preparedness activities based on emerging science while the supply chain is holding. Over the next few days, further direction will be provided regarding collection of used MDIs. Reprocessing and reuse will not occur until there is regional guidance and approval. For now, here are a few important reminders:

1. MDIs must always be used with an aerochamber
2. MDIs should not be left at bedside to ensure that the aerochambers are being utilized
3. Don't send MDIs home with patients on discharge

- Should you require the services of the Maintenance department, please enter an electronic work order complete with the room number and if the room is occupied, along with as much information regarding the service request as possible. This will greatly assist the maintenance team in not having to make repeated trips into areas of the hospital where they may require PPE. An electronic work order can simply be entered by emailing .

- Generous community offers of meals for our staff are continuing. In keeping with our process to distribute these items in a fair and equitable manner, staff from Surgical program, POAC (Pre-Op Assessment Clinic) and Maternal Child Care will enjoy 25 meals donated by Harvey's/Swiss Chalet Pembroke on April 22nd. Then on April 24th, staff from IT, Food Services, IPAC, and MJ Beier will enjoy 30 meals provided by Mary Brown's in Petawawa. Specific details have been forwarded to department managers. As we receive notice of other donations, remaining staff and physicians will benefit. Stay tuned.

- Today's video, #8 in our series features Pierre Noel who expresses heartfelt thanks to our staff and physicians, the community and fellow first responders. <https://youtu.be/kaHA0SVgg70>



Up-To-Date Facts and Figures

- COVID-19 patients in our care: three probable on Medical 2A; no confirmed COVID-19 cases at PRH.
- In Renfrew County the number of laboratory confirmed cases remains at 14 to date, and one death. To date, a total of 875 people have been tested, with 166 still under investigation. For the latest Renfrew County information on COVID-19, please visit www.rcdhu.com.
- In Ontario, there have been 7,953 laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 334 deaths. To date, a total of 113,082 people have been tested and 2,107 remain under investigation. For up-to-date information on provincial COVID-19 statistics, please visit www.ontario.ca.



Do You Have A COVID-19 Question?

Email: covid19questions@prh.email

All questions and answers are posted and archived by date on the Staff Resources section of our hospital's website: www.pembrokeregionalhospital.ca

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

As a volunteer at both the Mural Café and the Sunshine Gift Shop I constantly see the dedicated staff of the hospital go about their day in a calm and professional manner looking after those in need in our community. We are very fortunate to have such a wonderful facility. During this time of crisis, their care and compassion is even more important as anxiety levels are high.

Every day they put themselves in harm's way so that we can stay safe and healthy. Please extend my profound gratitude to all who continue to work, including those who work behind the scenes keeping patients fed, the hospital clean and the hospital running smoothly as front line physicians and nurses continue their life-saving work.

I look forward to returning to the very satisfying job of volunteering at the hospital and seeing the staff once again. Stay safe and well.

Warm Regards, Kathy Smith, Volunteer

Thank you, thank you to all hospital workers, and our great health team executive, doctors and nurses and all staff...

Diana Gagne, Auxiliary President/ Café Volunteer

A Message From Our Patient and Family Advisory Council

On behalf of the non-medical contingent of the Patient and Family Advisory Council of the PRH - to all staff and administration at the Pembroke Regional Hospital - a sincere, heartfelt "THANK YOU" for all your efforts during this pandemic.

Your dedication to providing appropriate and consistent care to the members of our community is greatly appreciated.

Please realize we acknowledge the stressful nature of your work and wish for your continued safety through to the conclusion of this crisis.

*Respectfully,
Richard Sheppard, Co-Chair,*

*Pembroke Regional Hospital
Patient and Family Advisory Council*

HOW TO PUT ON, USE, TAKE OFF AND DISPOSE OF A MASK

Before putting on a mask, clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water



HOW TO PUT ON, USE, TAKE OFF AND DISPOSE OF A MASK

Cover mouth and nose with mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask



HOW TO PUT ON, USE, TAKE OFF AND DISPOSE OF A MASK

Avoid touching the mask while using it; if you do, clean your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water



HOW TO PUT ON, USE, TAKE OFF AND DISPOSE OF A MASK

Replace the mask with a new one as soon as it is damp and do not re-use single-use masks



PRH Supply Status

<i>Items targeted during Pandemic</i>	Total Stock
N95 Respirators 1860 4% staff fit tested	27
N95 Respirators 1860S 37% staff fit tested	2,043
N95 Respirators 1870+ 50% staff fit tested	681
N95 Respirators 9105	297
N95 Respirators 8110s 3% staff fit tested	182
N95 Respirators 8210 2% staff fit tested	859
N95 Respirators 9210+	245
Mask isolation (ear loop no visor)	700
Mask isolation (with tie no visor)	1,813
Mask visor ear loop	1,550
Mask visor with tie	625
Gowns Isolation (Level 2 XLg Yellow)	3,506
Full face shield with velcro strap	655
Goggles - vented	93
Safety goggles (over glasses)	728
Safety glasses	1,492
Latex-Free Gloves Small - each (vinyl) 13.6%	63,750
Latex-Free Gloves Medium - each (vinyl) 48.3%	79,350
Latex-Free Gloves Large - each (vinyl) 36.1%	73,350
Latex-Free Gloves X-Large - each (vinyl) 1.9%	4,160
Shoe Cover	2,100
Hand Sanitizer 500ml	71
Hand Sanitizer 1000ml	84
Disinfecting Wipes (Accel)	176
Expired N95 1860S	120
Expired N95 1870	400
Expired N95 8110s	440
Expired N95 8210	2,010
Expired N95 9210	520
*Concerns about Supply	

THANKS FOR THE TREATS!

A big thank you to the Food Services team for providing and serving the coffee and cookies for today's appreciation event.



MEET ANGELA!

Angela has been with Pembroke Regional Hospital since 2004. Most of her days you can find her supporting the Surgical Program in the endoscopy suite as a registered nurse. Her role is to support patients during their recovery period after undergoing an endoscopy procedure.

COVID19

As of March 16th she has been re-deployed to support the Occupational Health Department and has been working tirelessly with the OccHealth Team to support our staff during these unprecedented times. You can now find Angela fit testing our staff and physicians for N95 masks, conducting telephone wellness checks and conducting swab tests to facilitate the management of cases and contacts associated with COVID-19 with return to work guidance.

Need information, assistance or do you 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 .

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

Thank you from Pembroke Regional Hospital!
Help us spread the love during these times.

Special Thanks From PRH Volunteer, Pianist, Peter Boczar

My Mom (Gladys Boczar) was a relatively healthy 92-year old who moved to Supples Landing in Pembroke from Kanata four months ago. She was the first resident of Renfrew County to contract COVID-19 and to die from it. She was severely short of breath early in the morning of March 23rd. She was immediately taken to PRH, where they treated her as if she had the virus. A few days later, testing was positive, and early on March 29th, she died.

My Mom was taken care of by Dr. Ratnayake at first, and later by Dr. Rowan, and of course, by the nursing team and other staff. Everyone was very professional, compassionate and honest. They gave us some hope in the first couple of days, but when her condition worsened, they didn't sugar-coat the inevitable. Everyone wants hope, but not false hope. She had come out of tight situations before, but it turned out she ran out of her "cat lives". They even tried that malarial drug but the virus was deep in her lungs, and there was nothing they could do. They gave her the maximum amount of oxygen, so she was lucid and in little pain until the last few hours. So we were able to talk to her every day. That was



important to both her and her family. Had she been on a ventilator, she would have died anyway, but without being able to communicate with us. In her final few hours, the medical team reduced the oxygen and put her on medication that allowed her to pass peacefully.

The medical staff treated my Mom and her family with dignity and respect, and we are grateful for the care they provided. I hope that our wonderful medical staff are able to stay safe, and that they receive the PPE that they need to treat this disease.

Peter Boczar (the Piano Man)

WE 
**FRONT LINE
WORKERS**

CAA is there for YOU.

Having car trouble? Call us to receive
a complimentary service call or up-to 10km tow

(equivalent to our Classic Membership)

available to all Front Line
Health Workers in Ontario

(Available to both CAA Members and Non-Members.)

Call us 1-800-222-4357



Submit Your Celebrations Online

Anyone can submit a celebration / recognition item that they would like published in The Pulse or our COVID-19 updates by sending it directly to this address.

celebration&recognition@prh.email

This will ensure timely receipt of those items that may normally sit on huddle boards for any length of time.

The email address can also be accessed in Outlook's dropdown listing.

