

## Today's Take-Aways

- The Ontario government has just released a framework to help hospitals assess their readiness and begin planning for the gradual resumption of scheduled surgeries and procedures while still maintaining capacity to respond to COVID-19. Timelines will vary from hospital to hospital and be conditional on approval by regional oversight tables involved with planning and coordinating Ontario's response to COVID-19.

The framework, *A Measured Approach to Planning for Surgeries and Procedures During the COVID-19 Pandemic*, contains criteria that must be met before hospitals can resume scheduled surgeries, including ensuring that the hospital and its region have the following:

- A stable number of COVID-19 cases;
- A stable supply of personal protective equipment;
- A stable supply of medications;
- An adequate capacity of inpatient and intensive care unit beds;
- An adequate capacity of health human resources; and
- The availability of post-acute care outside the hospital that would be required to support patients after discharge.

These criteria are meant to ensure that hospitals take a measured and responsible approach that prioritizes the health and safety of patients and health care workers, while maintaining plans to support long-term care and retirement homes in their region.

• We are in the process of connecting with area long-term care and retirement homes to determine how PRH can be of assistance. All facilities have expressed tremendous gratitude for our offers of support. Currently, two homes have asked for assistance with PPE supply and educational materials. Our hospital has also put together a team consisting of occupational health, infection prevention and control, clinical staff and management to assess facilities and ensure safety procedures and guidelines are being met. We will be deploying staff who have volunteered to assist in these settings should the need arise. Any deployments will follow processes that have been established in the Ottawa area and are being standardized throughout the region.

• As part of a provincial investment in new hospital beds to assist with the COVID-19 surge capacity in acute care, our hospital has received a new highly specialized bed for our Intensive Care Unit valued at approximately \$45,000 as part of this provincial allocation.

## Today's Take Aways...Continued From Front

- A plan is in now in place for the use of 3A for additional probable and positive COVID-19 should the need arise.
- A new document on universal masking guidelines for patients has been issued by Ontario Health and is being reviewed prior to implementation. More to follow on this.
- Further to the government's announcement to provide pandemic pay for eligible employees, the government has issued an that temporarily removes restrictions under the *Protecting a Sustainable Public Sector for Future Generations Act, 2019 (Bill 124)* to enable these payments. We are still awaiting necessary guidance before these payments can be issued.
- While the supply of many items of personal protective equipment (PPE) has stabilized, isolation gowns and N95 masks continue to be in short supply regionally and provincially. Efforts are being made at all levels to secure additional supply of these items.
- In partnership with CNL, PPE experts and trainers from CNL will be offering free education and support to PRH staff and staff from long-term care facilities and retirement homes in the region related on the use of PPE and on contamination control principles. Their upcoming two-part education series will focus on universal principles for PPE, safety principles for donning and doffing PPE, risk assessments and more. The sessions will be recorded and archived as an eLearning module for those who are not able to attend. Please RSVP to [kirsten.johnson@prh.email](mailto:kirsten.johnson@prh.email)

### **Part 1: Virtual Session via Zoom with a Question and Answer Opportunity**

Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 1200-1300 ***\*\*This is a prerequisite for the in person session\*\****

### **Part 2: In-person Training** Thursday May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020: 1230-1330 or 1330-1430 or 1500-1600

- Please note that due to increased requests for telephones in patient rooms, our supply has been depleted. All efforts are being made to restock our supply and we hope to do so by the end of next week. Please continue to enter work orders for phone replacement so that we can get them to you as they arrive. It is imperative that the phones be sanitized and left at the desk for pick up.
- A special COVID-19 edition of Community Connection is being published. It will be available on our website this evening and will soon be distributed to households in our region via Canada Post.
- A reminder to staff that the guidelines and approval form for internal fundraising at PRH are located on the Intranet, under the icon "Internal Fundraising". Please ensure that all guidelines have been followed and approval has been received before any internal fundraising activities are initiated.
- As a token of continued appreciation for the work that is being done in these challenging times by all of our staff and physicians, the hospital is continuing to waive PRH parking fees for the month of May.
- Today's health and wellness video features Occupational Therapist Victoria Twolan and Case Manager Marianne Bourgeois from Mental Health Services of Renfrew County on the topic of ergonomics when working from home. <https://youtu.be/iNQdv7tMPFk>





## Staff Self-Screening Now Available Electronically!

<https://www.pembrokeregionalhospital.ca/staff-screening>

- Before arriving at work, you may now complete the online self-screening questionnaire using the link above. The link is also available on The Loop, the Staff Resources section of the PRH website, or by using the QR code below.
- After completing the electronic self-screening tool, submit your response and an email will be sent to your email address.
- If you pass screening, you will be able to come in to work, if you fail screening, you will be asked to contact Occupational Health and Safety at ext. 8200
- When entering the hospital kindly show the email to the screener to confirm clearance to come to work.



## PRH Supply Status

| Items targeted during Pandemic                      | Total Stock |
|---|-------------|
| N95 Respirators 1860 4% staff fit tested            | 971         |
| N95 Respirators 1860S 37% staff fit tested          | 2,305       |
| N95 Respirators 1870+ 50% staff fit tested          | 563         |
| N95 Respirators 910S                                | 288         |
| N95 Respirators 8110s 3% staff fit tested           | 437         |
| N95 Respirators 8210 2% staff fit tested            | 1,478       |
| N95 Respirators 9210+                               | 66          |
| Mask isolation (ear loop no visor)                  | 19,300      |
| Mask isolation (with tie no visor)                  | 3,194       |
| Mask isolation (ear loop no visor) MOH/Other Supply | 9,900       |
| Mask visor ear loop                                 | 2,871       |
| Mask visor with tie                                 | 587         |
| Gowns Isolation (Level 2 XLg Yellow)                | 6,196       |
| Full face shield with velcro strap                  | 2,961       |
| Goggles - vented                                    | 194         |
| Safety goggles (over glasses)                       | 728         |
| Safety glasses                                      | 1,451       |
| Latex-Free Gloves Small - each (vinyl) 13.6%        | 95,400      |
| Latex-Free Gloves Medium - each (vinyl) 48.3%       | 130,500     |
| Latex-Free Gloves Large - each (vinyl) 36.1%        | 162,600     |
| Latex-Free Gloves X-Large - each (vinyl) 1.9%       | 5,200       |
| Shoe Cover  | 2,800       |
| Hand Sanitizer 500ml                                | 54          |
| Hand Sanitizer 1000ml                               | 175         |
| Disinfecting Wipes (Accel)                          | 173         |
| Expired N95 1860S                                   | 680         |
| Expired N95 1870                                    | 1,880       |
| Expired N95 8110s                                   | 415         |
| Expired N95 8210                                    | 2,400       |
| Expired N95 9210                                    | 160         |
| Expired N95 Other                                   | 1,705       |
| *Concerns about Supply                              |             |

## Thanks To Walmart

A special THANK YOU to Walmart Pembroke for donating a variety of snack items for staff to enjoy which we have shared with staff from Mental Health Services of Renfrew County.

The donation came as a token of appreciation for all our staff are doing to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 while providing care and services for our patients and clients.



### Feeling Overwhelmed?

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

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 so much to our ambulatory clinic nurses for their collaboration and great teamwork. Their assistance with implementing the new process for telephone consults with patients was greatly appreciated. *Heart Function and Diabetes Clinics*

• Kudos to the Vascular Health team in working together and supporting each other! Great collaboration. *Sue Crigger*

• Becky - Thank you for your excellent triaging of patients as I support the clinical nutrition inpatient unit. *Jenny*

• Dr. Weilgosz frequently praises all involved in Heart Failure patients' care. Thank you to the continuum of care supporting heart failure patients.

## Today's Facts and Figures

• COVID-19 patients in our care: 6 probable on Medical 2A and 3 probable in ICU; no confirmed COVID-19 cases at PRH.

• In Renfrew County, there have been 17 laboratory confirmed cases to date, and one death. To date, a total of 1,974 people have been tested, with 125 still under investigation. For the latest Renfrew County information on COVID-19, please visit [www.rcdhu.com](http://www.rcdhu.com).

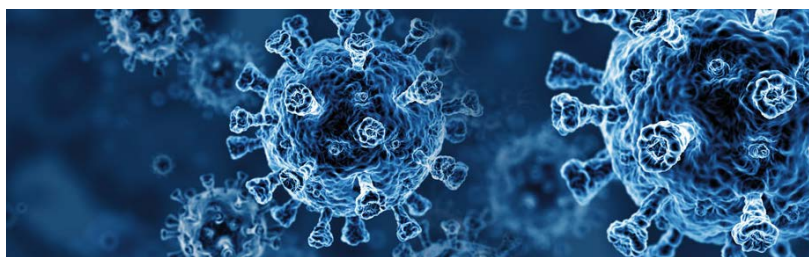
• In Ontario, there have been 19,121 lab confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 1,477 deaths. To date, a total of 380,854 people have been tested and 13,012 remain under investigation. For provincial COVID-19 statistics, please visit [www.ontario.ca](http://www.ontario.ca).

## Do You Have A COVID-19 Question?

Email: [covid19questions@prh.email](mailto: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](http://www.pembrokeregionalhospital.ca)

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



## How was your day?

Stressful

Scary

Exhausting

Busy

Sad



Healthcare workers are at the front lines of the COVID pandemic. Increased feelings of stress, worry and anxiety are normal under these conditions. Support is available to help you cope.

The iLe  
**Royal**  
Mental Health - Care & Research  
Santé mentale - Soins et recherche

### COVID Frontline Wellness

provides confidential access to services and tools to support your mental wellbeing.

Just book an appointment online and one of our clinicians will call you to discuss your needs and connect you with the supports that are right for you.

For more information and to book go to: [www.theroyal.ca/covid-frontline-wellness](http://www.theroyal.ca/covid-frontline-wellness)

**It's simple. It's confidential. It will help.**

If you are a health care worker\* impacted by stress related to COVID-19, please reach out.

\* Any worker in a hospital, long-term care facility, retirement or group home, Paramedic service, primary care or community health care setting. You must reside in Ontario to access this service.



# COVID-19 PPE Overview

## Surgical N95 Respirators

- **Require NIOSH approval** (42 CFR Part 84)
- Approved for use in surgical settings and sterile fields
- **Fluid-resistant** in accordance to ASTM F1862 to protect against high pressure streams of bodily fluid (160 mm Hg)
- N95 classification means filtration efficiency of at least 95% against solid & liquid non-oil-based airborne particles
- Help reduce particles both inhaled & expelled by the wearer (including bacteria & viruses)
- Meet CDC guidelines for *M. tuberculosis* exposure control
- Require a tight fit for effective seal around the face; must be fit tested initially & every 2-3 years

### Example:

3M Model 1870



See extensive list on [CDC website](#)

## Particulate N95 Respirators

### Medical Grade

- **Require NIOSH approval** (42 CFR Part 84)
- **Not fluid-resistant**
- N95 classification means filtration efficiency of at least 95% against solid & liquid non-oil-based airborne particles
- Help reduce particles both inhaled & expelled by the wearer (including bacteria & viruses)
- Meet CDC guidelines for *M. tuberculosis* exposure control
- Require a tight fit for effective seal around the face; must be fit tested initially & every 2-3 years

### Example:

3M Model 8210 Plus



See extensive list on [CDC website](#)

### Industrial Grade

- **Require NIOSH approval** (42 CFR Part 84)
- **Not fluid-resistant**
- N95 classification means filtration efficiency of at least 95% against solid & liquid non-oil-based airborne particles
- Help reduce particles both inhaled & expelled by the wearer (including bacteria & viruses)
- **Important:** Some industrial N95 masks have head straps (e.g. 3M 9105S), which permit a proper fit and seal, while others (e.g. DTC3X) have ear loops which prevent a secure seal around the mouth and nose

### Example:

3M 9105S



See extensive list on [CDC website](#)

## KN95 Respirators

- **Non-NIOSH approved** respirators manufactured in China; require GB2626-2006 testing & approval
- Medical grade
- **Not fluid-resistant**
- Filtration efficiency of at least 95% against solid & liquid non-oil-based airborne particles
- Help reduce particles both inhaled & expelled by the wearer (including bacteria & viruses)
- KN95 respirators that qualify under the Health Canada [Interim Order](#) as a Class 1 Device are manufactured by:
  - Senke Pharmaceutical (Chengdu) Co.
  - Groupe Ricochet Inc.
- **Important:** Ear loops prevent a secure seal around the mouth and nose ( $\leq 8\%$  leakage; arithmetic mean)



## Medical Face Masks

- **Require ASTM (F2100-11) & ISO (10993-5, 10) rating**
- **Not considered respiratory protection**
- Loose fitting – air leakage around mask's edge during inhalation

### Procedure Masks

- Used for performing patient procedures, or when patients are in isolation to protect them from potential contaminants
- Protect both patients and staff from the transfer of respiratory secretions, fluids or other debris
- Generally used for 'respiratory etiquette' to prevent clinicians, patients and visitors from spreading germs by talking, coughing, or sneezing.
- Have ear loops for quick donning

### Surgical Masks

- Used inside the operating room or other sterile procedure areas to protect the patient environment from contamination
- Protect clinician from contaminated fluid or debris generated during the procedure.
- Have ties so that they can be adjusted for fit

### Three Levels of Protection

- **Level 1:** General procedures & respiratory etiquette; light/minimum Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) and Particulate Filtration Efficiency (PFE) protection; resist splash/spray at venous pressure (80 mm Hg)
- **Level 2:** For general & surgical procedures; High BFE & PFE protection; resist splash/spray at arterial pressure (120 mm Hg)
- **Level 3:** For trauma and surgical procedures; High BFE & PFE protection; highest fluid resistance; designed resist splash/spray during tasks like orthopaedic surgery (160 mm Hg)



## Isolation Gowns

- **Required Standard for Surgical Gowns** used in health care facilities: ASTM F2407-06(2013)e1
- **Required Standard for Isolation Gowns** used in health care facilities: ASTM F3352-19
- Both ASTM F2407 and F3352 use AAMI PB70 specific test methods to evaluate barrier effectiveness for surgical and isolation gowns from Level 1 (least protection) to Level 4 (most protection)
- Level 2 & 3 gowns are appropriate for COVID-19 patient environments

### Level 2

- **Minimal to low fluid barrier protection** for minimally-invasive procedures e.g. ICU, dialysis, lab for activities such as suturing, IV insertion, venous blood draws
- **Testing Standard Requirements:**
  - AATC-42 (Water Resistance): Impact Penetration =  $\leq 1.0$  g
  - AATC-127 (Water Resistance): Hydrostatic Pressure =  $\geq 20$  cm



### Level 3

- **Moderate fluid barrier protection** for most surgical procedures e.g. trauma, ER, burn units, ICU for activities such as IV insertion, arterial blood draws
- **Testing Standard Requirements:**
  - AATC-42 (Water Resistance): Impact Penetration =  $\leq 1.0$  g
  - AATC-127 (Water Resistance): Hydrostatic Pressure =  $\geq 50$  cm



## Hand Sanitizer

- Gel:**
- Minimum 70% alcohol-based
- Foam:**
- Minimum 70% alcohol-based



## Coveralls

- Not AAMI rated
- Provide 360° protection; some designs also cover head & feet
- Coverall closures/zippers can compromise protection if not covered/sealed by a barrier material
- **Coverall Standards:**
  - EN 14126 specifies ISO 16603 and ISO 16604 test methods evaluating resistance of the material to liquid penetration under hydrostatic pressure. For each Classification (1-6), material hydrostatic pressure (kPa) is tested, with Class 6 offering the highest protection
- NFPA 1999 Protective Clothing & Ensembles for Emergency Medical Operations



All products shown are examples only. There are numerous brands of PPE that are fully certified and tested. Please confirm regulatory compliance and suitability before using at your facility.