

## Today's Take-Aways

### Regional Updates

- Ontario Health updated the clearing and testing guidelines on May 28<sup>th</sup>. In terms of patient clearing, our hospital is looking to the Region in order to have a standardized approach to removing patients from isolation. We expect to have further information in the coming days on testing which is being expanded into the health care sector for asymptomatic individuals.
- ALC (Alternate Level of Care) numbers remain high in the region with 55% of ALC patients waiting for placement in either a long-term care home or a retirement home. This will have an impact on hospitals' ability to ramp up deferred surgeries. Bruyere is planning to open transitional beds for the region which will help but will not alleviate the challenge.
- The Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre continues to see daily numbers ranging from 70-100 virtual patient visits and is in the process of collecting service data to present to the province as a way of validating ongoing investment in this service.

### Senior Leadership Team Message

- The Senior Leadership Team would like staff to know that due to COVID-19 related priorities they have been unable to regularly attend huddles at the department level and really miss that opportunity for engagement. They hope to be able to attend some huddles over the summer months and look forward to a return to regular attendance in the fall. In the meantime, they are very appreciative of the work being done through huddles during the pandemic and see it as an excellent way to continue our quality improvement work and to maintain good communication amongst teams.

### Human Resources

- PRH continues to support several long-term care and retirement residences in the area. Our current level of support is being reviewed for Riverview Heights and The Pinewood and we are now in discussions with Marianhill as we look to assist them with staffing support over the summer.
- A Pandemic Pay update is being issued as a separate memo along with this update.
- The anticipated ramp up of services is expected to impact the volume of patients requiring screening at the ED entrance. This may necessitate the need to move additional screening to the Tower B entrance.

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

• Staffing office personnel are striving to maintain work processes while adhering to new IPAC directives. Moving forward, all paperwork is to be submitted electronically. This includes, but is not limited to: time off requests, sign-in by exceptions, OT slips, exchanges, availability forms. Please refrain from forwarding original paper copies of the paperwork to the Staffing office. If you are unable to submit a form electronically, paper copies can be dropped off in Staffing mail box in the mail room. Employees requiring a new or replacement ID badge can call or email the Staffing office to arrange for a replacement.

### Clinical News

• We are now in the process of beginning the reintroduction of deferred surgeries and procedures. For more information on this please view today's video featuring Pierre Noel and Dr. Tom Hurley. <https://youtu.be/PDx0u2uHJns>

- Some of our clinical areas are already experiencing increased numbers.
  - The Emergency Department's numbers are slowly increasing and are now averaging 70 to 80 visits a day.
  - Diagnostic Imaging volumes are also increasing as a result of the increased ED volume.
  - The Acute Mental Health unit occupancy rate is now at about 80%.

### General Interest

• Food Services is excited to announce a series of weekly specials coming to The Lunch Box as an alternative to the soup/sandwich/salad offerings that have been put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic. The specials will start with a weekly wrap feature on Wednesdays with our cooks preparing some unique flavourful offerings and experimenting with new recipes. Today's introductory wrap was Thai Chicken and our June 10<sup>th</sup> feature will be a \$5 Taco Wrap. Stay tuned for more announcements that are meant to tempt your taste buds!

• On June 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m., local churches will simultaneously ring their bells as a way of saying "Thank You" followed by a moment of silence to reflect on all who are helping to keep the community safe and operating during these challenging times. One final toll of the church bells will follow.

## The Art of Coping Initiative

Many of us, over the past few months have found new ways of coping with or "new normal", or perhaps we have revisited old hobbies or tasks we never finished. Whether that be a home improvement project, photography, planting a garden, baking...the possibilities are endless.

Starting this week, we are inviting PRH staff and physicians to share pictures that we can compile into an *Art of Coping* montage that depicts how our team has been navigating the ups and downs that we have all been experiencing. By sharing these ideas, we can inspire, celebrate and be mindful of the simple moments that are getting us through.

Please send all photos to [carolyn.levesque@prh.email](mailto:carolyn.levesque@prh.email) and ensure that if others are in the photo that you have their permission to share.



## Saving The Staff Screening Tool To Your Mobile Device

### Android:

Launch Chrome for Android and open the website or web page you want to pin to your home screen. Tap the menu button and tap "Add to Home Screen".

You'll be able to enter a name for the shortcut and then Chrome will add it to your home screen.

The icon will appear on your home screen like any other app shortcut or widget so you can drag it around and put it wherever you like.

Chrome for Android loads the website as a "web app" when you tap the icon, so it will get its own entry in the app switcher and won't have any browser interface getting in the way.

### iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch:

Launch the Safari browser on Apple's iOS and navigate to the website or web page you want to add to your home screen.

Tap the Share button on the browser's toolbar. It's on the bar at the top of the screen on an iPad and on the bar at the bottom of the screen on an iPhone or iPod Touch. Tap the Add to Home Screen icon in the Share menu.

You'll be prompted to name the shortcut before tapping the Add button.

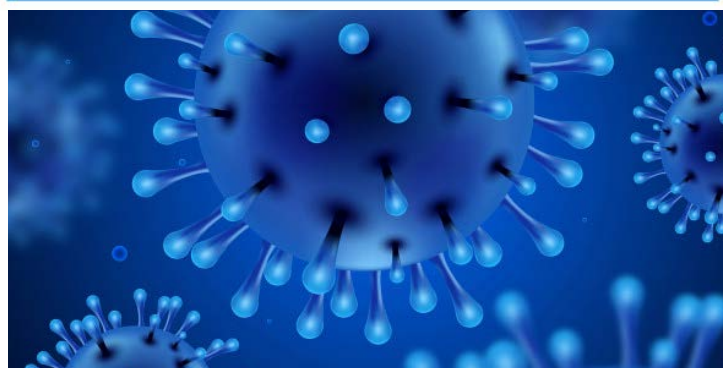
The shortcut can be dragged around and placed anywhere, including in app folders - just like a normal app icon.



## 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.



commendable and so appreciated! *Cheryl Summers*

• Thanks to **Kelly Furgoch (Mental Health Services)** and **Greg Verch (IT)** for working with our vendor, Anzer, to create a report to collect mental health and addictions data related to COVID-19 in collaboration with our work with the Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre. They were instrumental in addressing the issue. Their helpfulness in this very busy time is

• Celebrating **Karen Gauthier, Jennifer Kennedy, Dr. Declan Rowan, Dr. Aviva Stewart, Coralie Mackay and Laurie Menard** who did an excellent job developing the "Person Centred Decision Making: Documenting Goals of Care Discussions" document that is currently being trialled. This document was developed under short time constraints, moving ahead a quality improvement initiative that was originally slated for completion in 2021.



# 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.



## 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.

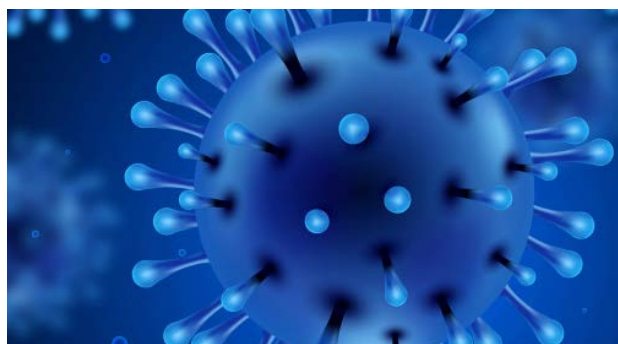
\* Any worker in a hospital, long-term care facility, retirement or group home, Paramedic service, primary care or community health care setting. You must reside in Ontario to access this service.

## 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.



## Facts and Figures

- COVID-19 patients in our care: 3 probable on Medical 2A, 1 probable in ICU and 2 probable on Rehab. There are no positive cases at PRH.
- In Renfrew County, there have been 23 laboratory confirmed cases to date, and one death. To date, a total of 4,228 people have been tested. For the latest Renfrew County information on COVID-19, please visit [www.rcdhu.com](http://www.rcdhu.com).
- In Ontario, there have been 29,047 lab confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 2,312 deaths. To date, a total of 765,501 people have been tested and 11,636 remain under investigation. For provincial COVID-19 statistics, please visit [www.ontario.ca](http://www.ontario.ca).

## PRH Supply Status

N95 Respirators 1860	4% staff fit tested	972
N95 Respirators 1860S	37% staff fit tested	2,062
N95 Respirators 1870+	50% staff fit tested	398
N95 Respirators 1804		3,477
N95 Respirators 9105		247
N95 Respirators 8110s	3% staff fit tested	379
N95 Respirators 8210	2% staff fit tested	1,321
N95 Respirators 9210+		69
Mask isolation (ear loop no visor)		13,500
Mask isolation (with tie no visor)		2,270
Mask isolation (ear loop no visor) MOH/Other Supply		32,000
Mask visor ear loop		1,423
Mask visor with tie		771
Gowns Isolation (Level 2 XLg Yellow)		6,180
Full face shield with velcro strap		3,911
Goggles - vented		206
Safety goggles (over glasses)		728
Safety glasses		1,427
Latex-Free Gloves Small - each (vinyl)	13.6%	84,900
Latex-Free Gloves Medium - each (vinyl)	48.3%	100,950
Latex-Free Gloves Large - each (vinyl)	36.1%	118,650
Latex-Free Gloves X-Large - each (vinyl)	1.9%	5,720
Shoe Cover		1,800
Hand Sanitizer 500ml		0
Hand Sanitizer 1000ml		97
Disinfecting Wipes (Accel)		151
Expired N95 1860S		680
Expired N95 1870		1,880
Expired N95 8110s		415
Expired N95 8210		2,429
Expired N95 9210		160
Expired N95 Other		1,705
*Concerns about Supply		



# Understanding The Role Of Our COVID-19 Champions

To ensure a consistent and timely approach to education related to COVID-19, a team of “COVID Champions” was developed early on in the pandemic. This team consists of eight champions and two additional staff resources. Each department at PRH is assigned one departmental champion.

The role of the champion is to keep staff up-to-date and informed of process changes, new best practice updates and to be the go-to person to answer questions and provide support.

Our team of champions meet two to three times per week to discuss regional and organizational updates, discuss frequently asked questions and consider teaching points for the week. By meeting regularly, the champions are able to ensure that the message delivered to all departments is consistent.

Staff and patient safety is our ultimate goal. We are able to accomplish this by sharing important information, assessing or auditing performance and making recommendations.

It is important to note that the champions provide information and teaching based on organizational procedures and policies. If you have concerns about a product, a policy or a procedure, please speak with your Manager or Supervisor.

Pictured, from left and listed with their designated departments are COVID-19 champions:

**Rachel England:** Inpatient and Outpatient Rehabilitation, AMH

**Kirsten Johnson:** HR/ Staffing and Patient Services

**Thea Nicolai:** IT, Pharmacy, dietary, housekeeping, medical records, MDR

**MJ Beier:** Physicians, Medical Affairs, Lab, Screeners

**Lisa Mitchell:** 2A and 3B Medical and Surgical

**Collinda Elliott:** Diagnostic Imaging, Maintenance, OR, Ambulatory Clinics

**Rachel Lawrence:** CMH

Missing from photo:

**Sue Bow** (ED, ICU and LDRP), and additional champion resources **Danielle Malone** and **Linda Cousineau**





## Additional Tips For Laundering Personal Work Apparel at Home:

The Centers for Disease Controls and Prevention (CDC) recommends the following steps for laundry, clothing, and other items that may go into the laundry:

1. Wear disposable gloves when handling dirty laundry and discard after use. If using reusable gloves, those gloves should be dedicated for cleaning and disinfection of surfaces for COVID-19 and should not be used for other household purposes. Clean hands immediately after gloves are removed. If no gloves are used when handling dirty laundry, be sure to wash hands afterwards.
2. If possible, do not shake dirty laundry. This will minimize the possibility of dispersing virus through the air.
3. Launder items using the warmest water setting and dry items completely.

### Helpful Tips for Cleaning your Uniforms at Home:

1. Wash on a "hot" cycle.
2. Avoid short/ rapid cycles. Set your cycle to "regular" or "normal".
3. Use laundry soap and colour-safe bleach.
4. When drying your uniforms, use the highest heat setting possible for at least 30 minutes



## With Garry Engler, Spiritual Care Coordinator

The COVID-19 pandemic and the uncertainties that have accompanied this have impacted us all.

As part of his role, Garry is offering staff and physicians a series of virtual coffee chats, where he will be available by Zoom Thursdays from 2:30-3:30 p.m. for confidential conversations on any and all subjects.

Appointments outside of this time frame can also be scheduled if there's interest by emailing [garry.engler@prh.email](mailto:garry.engler@prh.email)

### Zoom Coordinates

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83727896132?pwd=akwvN1hmUE1aS3BvYVBqVG9aZIRrQT09>

June 11 "Managing through COVID-19"  
June 18 "Staying Resilient in a Pandemic"  
June 25 "What does normal look like to you?"



# CONSTRUCTION CORNER

Since March 19th, all non-essential renovations and construction work was suspended to minimize the risk of spread of COVID-19 by not having contractors in the buildings.

This type of work in health care facilities is now allowed to take place so weekly updates on construction initiatives will now be shared with our team.

## Tower A:

- We have been trying to slowly restart some renovation work where possible in isolated areas of the hospital such as 4th floor in the old paediatrics wing. Some contractors and material supply businesses have been closed. However, some data cabling work for the offices and painting was completed and we are working on installing office door hardware and smoke detectors in the ceilings.
- A window was installed in the lower loading dock door for safety reasons.
- Plexiglass barriers were installed in the ED registration area, inside ED staff desk area, on both sides of the cash register in the cafeteria and at Switchboard.
- An air deflector was installed on one back up generator to deflect hot air off the urea tank when running.
- An intake conduit extension was installed on the air conditioning unit serving the Finance office to prevent foul smelling air to enter the building.

## Tower B:

- Plexiglass barriers were installed in the DI registration and CT/Nuclear Medicine booking desk areas.
- The contractor started mobilizing on site this week for the Rehabilitation Deck/Roof project. Fencing went up in the Tower C parking lot and a temporary path was constructed for small mobile equipment to travel to the deck. Some soil was removed and the flower planters were dismantled. There were some test saw cuts in the concrete. The electrical contractor was also on site to investigate the wiring of the wall plugs around the deck.



## Tower C:

- Plexiglass barriers were installed in the Ortho Clinic registration area.
- A new wall and door were installed in the ground floor corridor between the Ortho clinic and the Dialysis unit in order to create a separate exam space for assessing patients from the Family Medicine Teaching Unit. A paving stone walkway was installed from the parking lot to the entrance door where there was sod.

## Tower D:

- Plexiglass barriers were installed at the ground floor and first floor registration desks.
- A window was installed in the main front entrance door for safety reasons.

## Other:

- All parking lot lights have now been upgraded to LED for energy savings.

