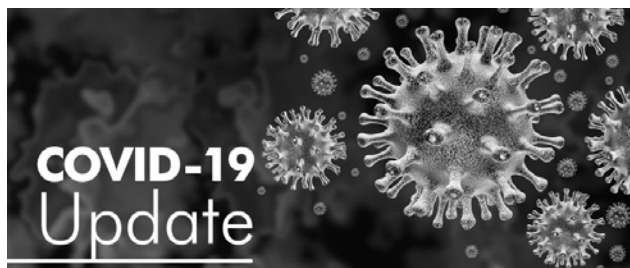


PEMBROKE REGIONAL HOSPITAL



DATE: March 20th, 2020

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update #8

Today's Take-Aways:

- Effective immediately, no passes will be issued to patients for short-term leaves.
- The tunnel to Marianhill has now been closed from both sides.
- Change to Visitor Policy - Effective March 22nd, **only** essential visitors are permitted at PRH, one per patient. Essential visitors are those who, for instance, have a patient who is dying or very ill or undergoing surgery, or the partner of a woman giving birth, or the parent or guardian of an ill child or youth.
- A reminder that our internal Incident Management System remains in place with multiple working groups addressing key areas of operations: 1) Critical Care, 2) Clinical Screening and Visitor Policies, 3) Non-Essential Services, 4) Human Resources Directives and Screening of Staff, 5) Communications and 6) Supplies. These groups, in addition to our Incident Management Group, Management Team meeting and others continue to meet daily as the situation evolves.
- As regional, provincial and federal directions continue to change, our hospital continues to react, plan and strategize to ensure that all requirements are met.
- In an effort to preserve Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) used by screeners, the potential to put in place portable plexiglass screens is being explored.
- All lab specimen collection kits are now being stored in the Laboratory. If you require a Nasopharyngeal or throat swab for COVID-19 testing, please contact the lab. You will be required to sign the swabs out as needed.
- HLS (our laundry service) has provided us with white soiled linen bags, to put isolation gowns in. This is done so that they are able to process gowns easily

and return them to us more quickly. All other linens (towels, face cloths etc.) are to be placed in the blue soiled linen bags.

- Canadian Blood Services continues to require regular blood donations to help care for patients. COVID-19 is not a blood-borne disease and strict procedures are in place to ensure the safety of all blood donors. Give the gift of life if you can.

- A reminder to staff to now send all COVID-19 questions to **covid19questions@prh.email**. On a regular basis, questions and answers will be posted on the COVID-19 section of Staff Resources and on our website (www.pembrokeregionalhospital.ca). All questions and answers will be posted and organized by date.

- We recognize that this situation is challenging for us all, not only on a professional level but on a personal level as well. For this reason, we need to be kind, understanding and supportive of one another so that we have a positive workplace and a calm, safe and professional environment for our patients. Remember you are not alone in this and there are resources to provide assistance and support if you need it.

- Today's YouTube video features Dr. Tom Hurley, Chief of Staff, speaking about the virus, the importance of preventive measures and the fact that the hospital is still here for those who need care. Feel free to copy and paste the link below into your browser or access the video directly from the link in the body of today's update email.

<https://youtu.be/3JPP0RP3O-0>

Need information 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.