

## PEMBROKE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

# MEMO

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**TO:** All Staff, Physicians, Volunteers, ONA President, CUPE President and Members of the Joint Health and Safety Committee

**FROM:** Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

**DATE:** January 1, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Outbreak Declared at PRH with Confirmation of Second New Confirmed COVID-19 Staff Case

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Please be advised that after receiving news today that a second member of our health care team has tested positive for COVID-19, we have declared an outbreak at PRH. This has been contained within our Emergency Department with no known unprotected patient exposures.

Information to this effect will be released to the media today.

Consistent with our past practice, we have worked closely with our Occupational Health and Safety Department as well as the Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) to complete contact tracing with this second individual. Anyone who has been deemed to be a close contact of the positive case has been directed to self isolate immediately and testing has been done or is in the process of being arranged.

With the majority of test results of individuals linked to the first positive case now returned, this is the only positive result at this point.

It is important to note that no patients have been identified as high risk contacts.

Given the circumstances surrounding this outbreak, we are reiterating the importance of all staff and physicians following established protocols and COVID-19 safety measures at all times.

These include accurate reporting of symptoms through the screening process, which is critical in keeping COVID-19 out of our workplace.

Please note that screening and the reporting of symptoms are not punitive processes. When you fail screening, you are simply directed to follow up with Occupational Health to discuss your situation and, depending on the circumstances, you may either be cleared to work or scheduled for swabbing.

We ask you to please continue following all of the guidelines with regard to masking and universal eye protection, frequent hand hygiene and maintaining proper distancing.

Let's all work together to keep each other safe and healthy at work.