

MEDIA RELEASE



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COVID-19 Outbreak Declared in Medical Wing of Inpatient Unit

Yesterday afternoon, Thursday, February 17th, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge (HKPR) District Health Unit declared a COVID-19 outbreak in the Medical Wing of the Inpatient Unit at Campbellford Memorial Hospital (CMH) following a confirmed case of hospital transmission. There are currently 8 confirmed patient cases associated with the outbreak.

As a result of the outbreak, the Medical Wing has been closed to further admissions, which is limiting admission capacity at the hospital to 50%. Staffing shortages and other infrastructure challenges, such as a lack of private rooms, outdated HVAC systems, and the need to convert semi-private and ward rooms to adequately isolate patients are creating additional challenges in the inpatient unit which may have a further impact on admission capacity.

Campbellford Memorial Hospital is in contact with partner hospitals Quinte Health Care (QHC) and Peterborough Regional Health Centre (PRHC) in order to facilitate the transfer of patients requiring acute care who cannot be admitted due to capacity issues. Both hospitals have been incredibly supportive as we work together to ensure our patients continue to receive uninterrupted quality care.

While every attempt is being made to limit the impact on hospital services, the following changes are being implemented immediately until further notice:

- The Medical Wing is closed to admissions and repatriations.
- Visitation in the inpatient unit is restricted to those at end-of-life care and must be approved by the Clinical Manager.
- The ramp up in endoscopy services has been delayed until further notice.
- Volunteers will be unable to come to CMH for the duration of the outbreak

Further restrictions or changes may be required as the situation evolves and they will be communicated to the public if they occur.

Services in the Emergency Department remain unaffected by this outbreak and community members in need of emergency care should not hesitate to seek assistance. Please note that visitors are not permitted in the ED unless they fall under one of the two exceptions listed below:

- Minor children can be accompanied by one parent/guardian
- Elderly adults who need supportive care can be accompanied by an essential caregiver

For the most recent updates on hospital policies and procedures as it relates to COVID-19, please visit:

www.cmh.ca/covid-19

“The health and safety of patients and staff at CMH remains our top priority and the hospital will be working with Public Health and our health care partners to ensure disruptions to patient care and hospital services remain as minimal as possible.” – Eric Hanna, Interim President & CEO