



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 12, 2013

Clostridium difficile outbreak over at CMH

An outbreak of *Clostridium difficile* at Campbellford Memorial Hospital (CMH) has been declared over.

C. difficile is a bacteria found in the human bowel. It can cause diarrhea and is one of the most common infections in hospitals, health care facilities and in the broader community. Individuals most at risk include those who have taken antibiotics in the past two months, are older than 65 years of age and have underlying illnesses and multiple or prolonged hospital stays.

The outbreak was identified February 20, 2013. CMH's Infection Control Practitioner confirmed with the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit on March 6, 2013 that there were no new cases to report for the remainder of the 4 week period (the 4 week period is based on the date of the first case).

CMH reminds all visitors of the importance of routine infection control practices, particularly proper hand hygiene. Hand washing remains one of the most important infection prevention and control practices to stop transmission of infectious diseases both within the hospital environment and the community. Frequent hand washing, particularly before and after patient contact, is mandatory and vital to reducing health care-associated infections.

Surrounding health care facilities, including hospitals, retirement residences and long-term care homes are being notified.

For more information, please contact:

Lynda Tinney, Executive Assistant to CEO, Campbellford Memorial Hospital
E: CEO-EA@cmh.ca; P: 705-653-1140 x 2161 (Tuesdays & Thursdays)

or

Jennifer Pacheco, Executive Assistant to CEO, Campbellford Memorial Hospital
E: CEO-EA@cmh.ca; P 705-632-2006 (dir line) (Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays)

About Campbellford Memorial Hospital - CMH is a combined medical/surgical health care facility located in Trent Hills. It serves approximately 30,000 Northumberland, Peterborough and Hastings County residents, as well as a large seasonal population of cottagers and tourists enjoying the beautiful Kawartha Lakes Region and the Trent River System. As the only hospital located between Belleville and Peterborough, Ontario, CMH provides a comprehensive array of acute care services. The Hospital's 24-hour Emergency Department has approximately 20,000 visits each year. CMH's community health care campus partners include: Trent Hills Family Health Team; Campbellford Memorial Health Centre; Campbellford Memorial Multicare Lodge; Campbellford and District Community Mental Health Centre; as well as other area community agencies.