

## Markham Stouffville Hospital declares outbreak of COVID-19 at the Markham site *1 Centre (1C), Palliative and Complex Continuing Care Unit*

April 28, 2021

Today, in consultation with York Region Public Health, an outbreak has been declared on 1 Centre (1C), Palliative and Complex Continuing Care Unit. An outbreak as defined by the Ministry of Health, is two or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases (patients and/or staff) within a specified area (unit/floor/service) within a 14-day period where both cases could have reasonably acquired their infection in the hospital.

Three patients and one staff have tested positive. All three patients are in the appropriate isolation and are being monitored closely. The staff member is recovering at home.

As we continue to see community spread of COVID-19 during this devastating third wave of the pandemic, Markham Stouffville Hospital (MSH) remains vigilant.

As per outbreak protocol, we are conducting testing of patients and staff on the unit and have heightened infection prevention and control measures such as enhanced cleaning of the department and equipment, and ongoing auditing and reinforcement of personal protective equipment (PPE) processes and procedure within the department. The unit is currently closed to all visitors.

The health and safety of our patients, the community and our health care workers is paramount. The Infection Protection and Control team is working closely with Occupational Health and Safety and York Region Public Health on the outbreak management process ensuring best practice guidance is undertaken.

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