

Markham Stouffville Hospital Corporation declares outbreak of COVID-19 at the Markham site

November 17, 2020

Today, in consultation with York Region Public Health, an outbreak has been declared on the Transitional Care Unit (2C) at the Markham site. Three staff members and four patients connected to this outbreak have tested positive for COVID-19. The staff members are at home recovering and the patients are in appropriate isolation, being monitored closely and receiving care at MSH.

The definition of a COVID-19 outbreak in a hospital, as per guidance from the Ministry of Health is as follows: 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.

Once the outbreak was suspected, a number of actions were quickly taken including enhanced cleaning of the department and equipment, and ongoing auditing and reinforcement of personal protective equipment (PPE) processes and procedure within the department.

The MSH Occupational Health and Safety team is working closely with Infection Protection and Control and York Region Public Health on the outbreak management process ensuring best practice guidance is undertaken.

As we continue to see the increase community spread of COVID-19, Markham Stouffville Hospital remains vigilant. Our top priority is the safety of our patients, our health care workers and the community.

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