

# Oak Valley Health declares outbreak of COVID-19 at Markham Stouffville Hospital, 3E Medicine Oncology unit

December 18, 2021

Today, in consultation with York Region Public Health, an outbreak has been declared on 3 East (3E), Medicine Oncology 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 have tested positive. All three patients are in the appropriate isolation and are being monitored closely.

As we continue to see community spread of COVID-19 during this overwhelming fifth wave of the pandemic brought on by the omicron variant, Oak Valley Health remains vigilant.

As per outbreak management measures, 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 and York Region Public Health on the outbreak management process ensuring best practice guidance is undertaken.

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Media contact:

Yeena Peng, Director, Communications and Public Affairs

Oak Valley Health

E: [ypeng@msh.on.ca](mailto:ypeng@msh.on.ca) P: 905-472-7373 ext. 6948