

# Oak Valley Health declares outbreak of COVID-19 at Markham Stouffville Hospital, 3C Medicine/Cardiology Inpatient Unit

July 20, 2023

Today, in consultation with York Region Public Health, an outbreak has been declared at Oak Valley Health's Markham Stouffville Hospital, 3C Medicine/Cardiology Inpatient Unit.

An outbreak as defined by the Ministry of Health, is two or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases (patients and/or staff) with a common epidemiological link within a specified area (unit/floor/service) within a seven day period where both cases could have reasonably acquired their infection in the hospital.

Three patients have tested positive and are being monitored closely.

As per outbreak management protocol, heightened infection prevention and control measures have been implemented, such as testing of patients, close monitoring of patient symptoms, enhanced cleaning of the department and equipment, and ongoing auditing and reinforcement of personal protective equipment (PPE) practices. During the outbreak, visitor restriction is in effect, only essential care partners will be permitted into the unit.

The health and safety of our patients, the community, and our health care workers is paramount. The infection, prevention and control team at Oak Valley Health is working closely with York Region Public Health to ensure that best practice guidance is undertaken.

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