

# Oak Valley Health declares outbreak of COVID-19 at Markham Stouffville Hospital

December 28, 2023

Yesterday, in consultation with York Region Public Health, a COVID-19 outbreak has been declared at Oak Valley Health's Markham Stouffville Hospital within the transitional care (ALC) inpatient unit (2 Centre).

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.

Four patients have tested positive associated with this outbreak. These patients remain in hospital on additional precautions and are being monitored closely.

As per outbreak management measures, 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.

At this time, visitors to the transitional care (ALC) inpatient unit (2 Centre), are limited to only [essential care partners](#). Please contact the unit directly for more details on our visitor policy during this time.

The health and safety of our patients, the community, and our health care workers is paramount. The Infection Prevention and Control and Occupational Health & Safety teams at Oak Valley Health are working closely with York Region Public Health to ensure that best practice guidance is undertaken.

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