

## COVID Update and Outbreak Status January 29, 2021

The outbreak on our Horizon Program continues and now includes three staff and seven patients. The positive patients and those who have symptoms are being cared for by our excellent staff in a separate area of the program to help manage the outbreak with additional safety measures in place. While we have confirmation that one of the positive cases has a variant strain of concern of COVID-19, we don't yet know which variant of concern it is.

We can assure you that multiple precautions are in place including enhanced cleaning and full personal protective equipment (PPE) for staff at all times across the entire program.

We are proud of the team who is working to provide high quality care during this challenging time, continuing treatment and being innovative with safe activities where possible for our patients as they are isolated. We have added additional supports including infection, prevention and control staff and clinical managers.

All patients on this program and many staff have received the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. While no dates are yet confirmed for the second dose, the province has stated it will maintain the maximum interval of 21-27 days for long-term care, high-risk retirement and First Nations elder care home residents, which will include our Horizon Program patients.

There is now one additional positive patient on our isolation unit that is not connected to the Horizon Program outbreak and transmission was not hospital acquired. All safety measures are in place with the patient in isolation.

While the Horizon Program is closed to transfers unless for emergency medical reasons until the outbreak is over, the hospital remains open for admissions to our Swing Unit (isolation unit). All other clinical programs are continuing activities; however, we have suspended most off-unit recreational and vocational services at this time as part of our effort to limit movement of staff between clinical areas.

Waypoint remains focused on infection prevention and control measures, and the safety of patients, clients, staff and our community and is in regular contact with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit. All safety precautions remain in place for all patients and staff across the hospital. Everyone must be screened, practice thorough hand hygiene and physical distancing and use full PPE for all close interactions and if working on isolation units.