Family and Community COVID-19 Update  
April 14, 2022

Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Kieran Moore, earlier this week shared that it is clear we are in the sixth wave of COVID driven by the BA.2 variant, and that this wave will likely continue into the middle or end of May.

This wave has hit the hospital sector particularly hard and like most hospitals, Waypoint has many staff off with COVID-related absences. We do have contingency plans in place and are doing everything we can to continue to provide essential mental health care and activities for patients. Our team has been extremely resilient over the past two years in responding to the challenges and we are proud and thankful for their ongoing flexibility and collaboration.

A positive COVID case has been identified on Level 6 Toanche and that program is in enhanced surveillance. In response, enhanced IPAC measures are in place and all patients have been tested. All but one test has been returned with no other transmission noted. Until all results are received, all day/overnight passes are suspended for this program and admissions are on hold.

The hospital remains in Phase 3 for visiting which allows for 2 visitors for most patients. With COVID spreading rapidly in the community, we are closely monitoring public health indicators to inform any changes that may be needed.

**VISITING REMINDER**

With current high levels of COVID it is very important that all visitors check in with the hospital before a visit, pass COVID-related screening questions, and wear appropriate personal protective equipment regardless of whether the visit takes place indoors or out.

All visits must be scheduled, indoors and out, at least 72 hours in advance. All visitors must provide a QR code with proof of vaccination (two doses) and photo identification, or proof of medical exemption. Some limited exceptions apply in all circumstances such as palliative situations.

Homemade food can be eaten during visits and any leftovers must be taken by the visitor and cannot be left with the patient. Food/snacks that do not require refrigeration and made in a commercial kitchen and allowable/approved items such as clothing can dropped off or delivered in accordance with program guidance/parameters. Please contact the program/unit for more information.

As we weather this sixth wave of COVID together, we urge you to get vaccinated, including third and fourth doses if eligible, wear a mask, physical distance and continue to be cautious about gathering in large groups. We can help each other and we can help the health care system by doing everything we can to stay healthy and help our loved ones stay healthy.

**Resources for Patients and Families**

Supports for patients and families are available from our Spiritual Care Team, the Patient/Client and Family Council and the Patient Relations Office. More information can be found at [www.waypointcentre.ca/patients___families](http://www.waypointcentre.ca/patients___families)
| **Spiritual Care**  
Clinical Multifaith Chaplains  
and Traditional Healer  
705-549-3181, ext. 2850 | **Patient/Client & Family Council**  
A peer-led organization  
committed to using personal  
experiences to improve mental  
health & addiction services  
705-549-3181, ext. 2222 | **Patient Relations Office**  
Available to listen to your  
feedback and work to answer  
your questions and resolve your  
concerns  
705-549-3181, ext. 2999 |