Waypoint COVID-19 Community and Partner Update
December 9, 2020

As a follow-up to our communication dated December 7, we received notification on December 6 that a Waypoint employee tested positive for COVID-19. Our hospital remains focused on infection prevention and control, and the safety of patients, clients, staff and our community. Since the pandemic began in March, we have had a total of three staff cases and zero patient cases at the hospital.

We have not had any additional positive cases reported for staff or patients at this time. In consultation with the Simcoe/Muskoka District Health Unit, we are also not in outbreak status at this time.

However, due to an increase in COVID-19 cases regionally and provincially, and in line with our partner hospitals, we are suspending in-person visits across the hospital effective immediately. Some exceptions will apply for essential visitors and end of life or palliative circumstances.

The employee who tested positive had worked on four different units over the course of two days last week. The patients on these units were tested for COVID19 on Monday and we have received 60 negative test results to date, with four remaining outstanding. We continue to follow all infection prevention and control protocols for isolating patients.

In an effort to keep everyone safe and reduce the risk of transmission, and following the Health Unit’s direction, we have implemented the following:

- Patients from the four affected units are required to stay on their units and non-essential on-unit services have also been suspended.
- All staff deemed to be a high-risk contact with the staff member in question are required to not be at work, self-isolate and get tested.
- In addition to testing available at the Assessment Centre, and as an added convenience, all staff from the four units are being offered testing at Waypoint on December 10.
- Patients are now required to wear a mask when outside of their room or within 2 metres/6 ft of a health care worker. This is based on the latest provincial masking guidelines released this past weekend.

We continue to be in regular contact with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit and will make any additional adjustments as required. All safety precautions remain in place – universal masking, screening, hand hygiene, use of full PPE in our isolation unit and for any symptomatic patients, physical distancing, etc.