

## **Health Care Worker Tested Positive – Sample Statement**

*(Humber River Hospital Sample)*

- Today, we received confirmation that an HRH health care worker at the Reactivation Care Centre (RCC)– Finch site, tested positive for COVID-19. HRH is actively working closely with the staff member and the team to ensure all appropriate and best practice infection prevention and control measures have been taken to avoid the spread among staff and patients.
- The health care worker is currently in isolation at home and has not come into the hospital since they developed the symptoms.
- HRH has activated our Incident Management System (IMS) to immediately take action in this situation and to ensure that we are prepared to respond to any cases of COVID-19 at any of our 3 HRH sites.
- HRH has implemented the following measures:
  - o The 6E floor of the RCC - Finch site, where the staff member worked is being thoroughly cleaned
  - o Occupational Health & Safety is in the process of contacting all staff, physicians and volunteers who work at the RCC - Finch site with the employee. We will be asking all staff, physicians and volunteers who were in contact with the employee to self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days.
  - o REMINDER: All staff, physicians, and volunteers who are self-monitoring must take their temperature twice per day and NOT come to work if they are showing any symptoms, such as cough, fever, runny nose, shortness of breath
  - o HRH has informed our partners at North York General Hospital (NYGH), whose staff share a lounge with our staff at RCC-Finch site
  - o Ruben Rodriguez, Patient Care & Site Operation Manager, is currently on site to help make staff aware of the situation and all related precautionary measures that are being put in place
- EFFECTIVE TODAY, we will be taking additional precautions at the RCC – Finch site. These include:
  - o The communal Dining Hall/Activity Room at the RCC-Finch site will now be closed to all patients. There will be no patient access to this room.
  - o Patients will no longer be able to participate in communal activities
  - o The staff lounge at RCC Finch site will no longer be shared among HRH and North York General Hospital staff. There will be two separate staff lounges: one for North York General Hospital staff only and one for HRH staff only
  - o HRH staff, physicians and volunteers only are to use the Dining Hall/Activity Room at RCC-Finch as their staff lounge. North York General Hospital Staff only will use the current staff lounge at RCC-Finch site. Signage will be posted shortly.

- It is possible that staff may become sick while at work and as a result, there may be exposures to other healthcare workers. Similar to influenza, the risk of COVID-19 is far greater in the community than it is at work.
- We want to assure you that HRH is taking all proper precautions and steps to keep all staff, physicians, volunteers and patients safe. This includes: the use of appropriate personal protective equipment, limiting visitors, active screening of patients and visitors, increased cleaning and sanitation of our public areas and equipment. We will continue to closely monitor the situation. A memo will be shared with all HRH staff, physicians and volunteers tomorrow.
- Together, we will continue to tackle COVID-19 with compassion, professionalism, respect and swift actions. Thank you to all of our staff, physicians, and volunteers for their determination and co-operation.