

COVID-19 Outbreak – Holy Family Hospital (HFH) Updated July 3, 2020 at 9:00 pm

Since the last IPAC update on June 29, 2020, there have been multiple cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 at HFH LTC, including both residents and health care workers (HCW) – see epidemic curve below. Additionally, one “probable” resident case was recently identified. Despite the implementation of additional prevention and control measures, these new cases reflect ongoing transmission in LTC.

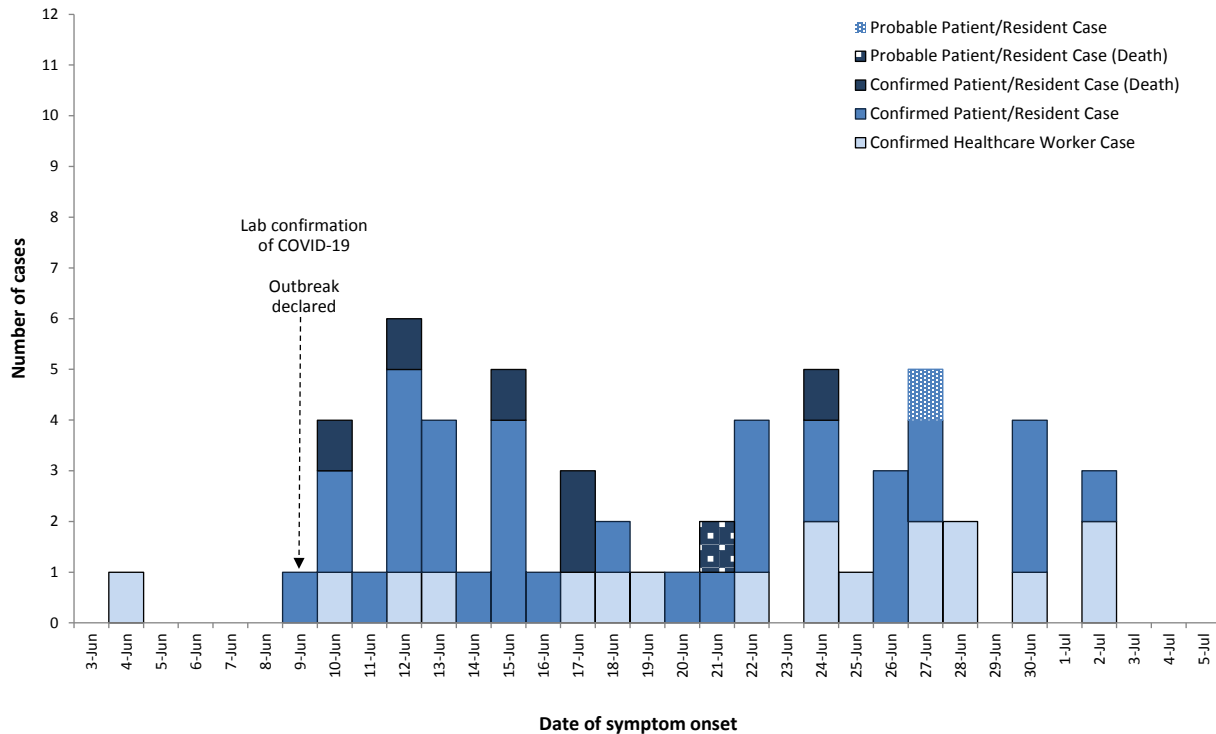
Extra staff and resources are being provided by VCH IPAC, including a review of environmental factors which may be contributing to transmission.

Administrative leadership is also being provided by VCH Public Health. Lessons learned from the successful control of outbreaks in other facilities within VCH are being applied to HFH LTC.

No cases of COVID-19 have been identified in Rehabilitation units at HFH, and outbreak precautions have been lifted for HFH Rehabilitation by the VCH Medical Health Officer. Active surveillance for potential cases in Rehabilitation units remains in effect.

Currently, 4 confirmed cases are admitted as patients to St. Paul’s Hospital. Two additional HFH residents with confirmed COVID-19 have died, bringing the total number of deaths to 7 since the declaration of the outbreak on June 9, 2020.

**COVID-19 Outbreak at Holy Family Hospital
Updated July 3, 2020 at 9:00 pm**



All COVID-19 Outbreak Precautions remain in place at Holy Family Hospital (LTC only).

All potential transfers of residents out of HFH LTC require a **verbal or written order by the VCH Medical Health Officer, as well as close collaboration with PHC IPAC.**

Prevention and control measures:

- Frequent and excellent hand hygiene by staff and residents.
- **Droplet and contact precautions, including universal usage of Personal Protective Equipment.**
- Enhanced environmental cleaning and disinfection of high touch surfaces.
- Removal of clutter and unnecessary equipment, as well as improved environmental controls.
- **On-site support provided by Infection Control Practitioners and Physicians 7 days per week.**
- Conversion of nebulized medications to delivery by metered dose inhalers.
- Closure of dining rooms and common areas for residents.
- Implementation of the provincial visitor policy (which applies to BC facilities experiencing COVID-19 outbreaks).

Rapid identification of cases:

- Active case finding, including frequent monitoring of symptoms, and subsequent specimen collection in residents with compatible symptoms.
- Enhanced screening of HCW on entry into the facility.
- On site mobile assessment centre for staff (provided by VCH Public Health) and low-barrier access to PCR testing for COVID-19.
- Rapid transport of specimens to the PHC Virology Laboratory for testing, including close coordination of testing with PHC Medical Microbiologists.
- **HCW with new symptoms – however mild – are asked to refrain from working** and to present to an assessment site for specimen collection as appropriate:
 - Advanced Parking Lot #9075, 700 block West 33rd Avenue (between Willow and Heather Streets), Vancouver
 - City Centre (Downtown) Urgent Primary Care Centre (UPCC), 1290 Hornby Street, Vancouver

Thank you for your continued support and ongoing dedication in controlling this outbreak.