

HOLY FAMILY STAFF UPDATE

July 16, 2020

TO: All Staff, Medical Staff, Contracted Staff at Holy Family Long Term Care

**FROM: Dr. Patty Daly, Chief Medical Officer for VCH and PHC
Karin Olson, Chief Operating Officer, Vice President, Coastal, VCH
Althea Hayden, Medical Health Officer, VCH**

Provincial Medical Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry’s daily public statement and release of information today included the following update on Holy Family’s outbreak:

Facility name	Type of facility	HA	Declared over	Total number of cases	Total number of deaths	Number of resident cases	Number of resident deaths	Number of staff/other cases	Number of staff deaths
Holy Family Hospital	Long term care facility	VCH	No	81	15	49	15	32	0

As the table shows, 49 residents and 32 staff members have been diagnosed with COVID-19 at Holy Family Hospital. That’s two newly-identified COVID-positive staff members since yesterday and no new residents. Three residents remain in hospital, two of whom are COVID positive and one COVID negative; none of them are in the ICU. There haven’t been any new deaths reported.

Seven residents and 21 staff have now fully recovered from the virus. That’s an increase of one more staff recovery since yesterday’s update.

Holy Family Staff Staying in Hotels/Temporary Accommodations:

- Please be advised that Holy Family long term care staff, who have been staying at Vancouver hotels, have been directed to return home by Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) Public Health.
- This decision was taken for public health reasons and as part of VCH’s ongoing management of the COVID-19 outbreak at Holy Family.
- The order was made to minimize contact of Holy Family staff outside of work and reduce the possibility of transmission outside the workplace.
- We believe staff and their families, are safer being at home when not working at Holy Family.
- While at work, Holy Family long term care staff are required to follow outbreak precautions and wear personal protective equipment at all times but this would not be expected to in a hotel.

- Additionally, hotels are now also accepting more guests from the public, and there is a larger risk of transmission between health care staff and members of the public as hotels reach capacity.
- At home, staff are better able to control who they may be exposed to and have been educated and supported to continue with precautions such as handwashing, changing clothes after returning from work, staying away from family members if they feel ill.
- We believe staff can effectively follow these precautions at home and limit any risk there may be to their families (please see helpful information below in the “EMPLOYEE SAFETY INFORMATION” section).
- Our priority is to contain the spread of COVID-19 at Holy Family and protect the health and safety of all residents, staff and their families.
- We will continue to support staff throughout this outbreak. You have shown tremendous dedication to your work, colleagues and the people you care for throughout the outbreak.
- **Providence Health Care will work one-on-one with those Holy Family staff who may have exceptional home circumstances. We will endeavour to find other suitable temporary options. For such issues, please contact Jody-Sydor Jones, Corporate Director, Mission Engagement & Reconciliation, Email: JSydorJones@providencehealth.bc.ca Mobile: 604-418-7411.**

EMPLOYEE SAFETY INFORMATION

If you've been in temporary accommodations and are moving back home, below is some information to help guide you in your transition. Other information is available at the PHC Staff COVID website [here](#).

Regarding questions about living with elderly parents/immune-compromised partner/child/parents

- Please follow general guidance to reduce exposure in a household such as washing hands frequently (e.g. when arriving home), cleaning high-touch surfaces and sleeping in separate rooms and using separate bathrooms if possible.
- Wear clean clothes to work, change into your uniform at work and change back into your clothes after your shift is finished.
- Please take your used uniform clothes home and launder them, unless they are hospital laundered scrubs – those need to be placed in hospital laundry.

Regarding questions about someone who is immunocompromised or pregnant:

- There is no evidence that pregnant women or their fetuses are at greater risk due to COVID-19.
- Please ensure you wear appropriate PPE, practice good hand hygiene and check in with your manager if you have any concerns related to appropriate PPE, opportunities to work from home, or redeployment options.

IPAC guidelines around dress-code for long-term care

- Before coming into work:

- Remove all watches and jewelry
 - Wear clean clothes to work
 - Ensure you have dedicated work shoes
 - Bring a change of clean clothes in washable bag
 - Don't bring any food to a facility with an outbreak
 - No nail polish. Proper hand hygiene
- During work:
 - Sanitize phone, ID badge and glasses
 - Sanitize work station and stethoscope
 - Hand hygiene before/after each patient/resident interaction & when touching new surfaces
 - Sanitize meal surfaces and proper hand hygiene before eating. No shared food.
 - No hand-shaking or high fives
 - Wear appropriate PPE as directed
- After work:
 - Change into clean clothes. Put work clothes in washable bag. Wear clean clothes home.
 - Sanitize phone, ID badge and stethoscope
 - Remove dedicated work shoes
 - Shower at work or immediately at home
 - Water bottles/Tupperware in dishwasher
 - Work clothes + bag in washer

STAFF SUPPORTS:

Your wellness is important & you are not alone:

- Email: covidwellness&support@providencehealth.bc.ca
- Support Line: 604-806-9925 or ext. 69925
 - Provides call-back option, including evenings and weekends
 - To speak with a colleague who is trained to provide Psychological First Aid (PFA) (this is not a crisis line). The voicemail and email will only be checked Monday-Friday between 0830-1630.
 - Supports include:
 - Virtual/remote availability PHC trained PFA employees/Psychologists
- More Urgent Emotional Support: Contact EFAP 24/7: 604-872-4929 or 1-800-505-4929
- PHC Occupational Health & Safety: Contact OH&S Director – 604-341-6272