

HURON PERTH HEALTHCARE ALLIANCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 20, 2018



Influenza Outbreak Declared Over at Seaforth Community Hospital *Outbreak Continues at Stratford General Hospital*

The influenza outbreak which was announced on February 14, 2018 at the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) - Seaforth Community Hospital site has been declared over.

“The impact on our patients, their families and on our entire healthcare team during an outbreak is significant,” says Andrew Williams, HPHA President & CEO. “Being able to declare the outbreak over is a testament to our team’s dedication and commitment to ensuring a safe environment and I thank all for their efforts.”

The influenza outbreak remains in effect on the Medicine / Integrated Stroke Unit at Stratford General Hospital.

“We’ve had no new cases of influenza since Friday, so our total number of lab confirmed cases remains at 10,” says Williams.

Visitors are still welcome at Stratford General Hospital and are asked to follow any posted instructions and to limit their interaction to one patient per visit. Those visiting infected patients will be required to wear a mask, gloves and gown and must discard these before leaving the patient’s room. Visitors should also use the hand sanitizer provided to wash their hands when they enter and leave the hospital and upon entering and leaving the patient’s room.

Visitors are also reminded that if they aren’t feeling well, they should postpone their visit for at least 72 hours after symptoms clear.

“If you are sick we are urging you to reconsider visiting any patients in any areas of our hospitals at this time, unless it is for compassionate or palliative reasons,” adds Williams. “Staying home will help stop the spread of the flu to people who may be more susceptible to complications.”

The flu shot is the best protection against the flu and is still available through family doctors (for all ages) and select pharmacies (for people aged five and over).

HPHA will continue to update the public, as our information changes or more becomes available.



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