

HURON PERTH HEALTHCARE ALLIANCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 20, 2020



Seaforth Community Hospital Declares Outbreak Over

An outbreak of gastrointestinal illness at the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) – Seaforth Community Hospital has been declared over. The outbreak had been confirmed on the Inpatient Unit on January 9, 2020.

“The impact on our patients, their families and on our entire health care team during an outbreak is significant,” says Larry Morrell, Infection Control Practitioner. “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 virus responsible for the outbreak was identified as Norovirus. Norovirus is commonly referred to as the stomach flu and causes an infection in the stomach and intestines. This infection is not caused by the influenza virus.

Norovirus is very contagious and has been linked to outbreaks of vomiting and/or diarrhea in day nurseries, schools, long term care homes, cruise ships, camps, dormitories, restaurants, households and other places where people gather in groups.

Visitors are reminded about the importance of handwashing when spending time with their loved ones in a hospital environment and should not visit if feeling unwell.

“Handwashing really is key to stopping the spread of illnesses,” adds Morrell.

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