

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## One hospital unit experiencing COVID-19 outbreak

*Kenora, ON, September 20, 2024* –A COVID-19 Outbreak has been declared on one unit of Lake of the Woods District Hospital (LWDH) - 3E/Med-Surg/ICU. The LWDH Infection Control team is investigating the outbreak and is working collaboratively with the Northwestern Health Unit to ensure effective control strategies.

The health and safety of our patients, their families and our entire hospital team is our utmost priority. Considering the outbreak, **visitor restrictions have been implemented to the affected unit. The restriction is effective Friday September 20, 2024 @ 1530hrs until further notice.** Limited exceptions may apply to end of the life patients as well as other extenuating circumstances. Any exceptions will be determined by the unit manager or delegate. Visitors are permitted in other areas of the hospital as per the visitor policy. Please do not visit your loved one if you are experiencing any respiratory symptoms. Universal masking is required while on the outbreak unit, this includes hallways and corridors.

There has been an increase in respiratory symptoms in the community despite the warm weather continuing into the middle of September. Stay home if you're feeling unwell and wash your hands, this is the best way to protect those who are most vulnerable.

Your patience and understanding is appreciated. LWDH will provide updates on the outbreak as we are able to.

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