

PRESS RELEASE



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**Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update:
Extension of Delay and Cancellation of Non-Essential Services Until June 1, 2020
Hospital ER Open for Critical and Urgent Care Patients**

Campbellford Memorial Hospital (CMH) continues to provide essential services and its staff, physicians and community partners are working very hard to promote and protect the health and well-being of our community during the COVID-19 Pandemic. For local updates, visit the HKPR District Health Unit web site at <https://www.hkpr.on.ca/>

People with symptoms that fall outside of the COVID-19 as defined by Public Health are encouraged to seek out medical support at the hospital's Emergency Department if required. This includes anyone with symptoms such as the following:

- Severe chest pain or pressure
- Trouble breathing
- Signs and symptoms of stroke
- Sudden confusion
- Seizures
- Heavy bleeding
- Severe pain anywhere in the body
- High fevers not better with medicine
- Laceration and suspected broken bones
- Suicidal thoughts

The community is encouraged to reach out to their family care provider or telemedicine clinics for common illness such as colds, earaches, sore throats, urinary tract infections, low grade fevers and chronic pain management, among other minor health symptoms.

Before visiting the ED, it is important to note that patients cannot have anyone accompany them into the hospital. If a patient has a cough or other respiratory symptoms, then that information should be shared with the screener upon arrival to the ED. Patients should also continue to practice social distancing and good hygiene while in the waiting room. All ED ambulatory patients are now being assessed and swabbed for

COVID-19 and provided their own mask to support infection controls in effect within the hospital. Anyone coming to the hospital must enter the building through the Emergency Department door. Everyone, including staff, entering the hospital are being actively screened to determine if extra COVID-19 precautions need to be taken by our staff. All patients are provided with a cloth mask to wear while at hospital.

The delay of elective and non-essential services provided by CMH is extended until Monday, June 1, 2020. CMH is continuing to monitor bookings, while assessing priority needs of patients impacted by delays and cancellations. This includes the following:

Non-Essential Services: On direction from the Minister of Health and Ontario Health, CMH has currently paused or postponed elective and 'non-essential' services. The hospital has postponed services and/or work deemed non-essential.

Diagnostic Imaging: All elective diagnostic imaging appointments booked at CMH are postponed until further notice. This includes all elective mammograms and bone mineral densities, elective follow-up and screening, CT scans (excluding oncologic studies), elective ultrasound examinations and X-rays. *Our Diagnostic Department will continue to provide imaging services to inpatients, Emergency Room patients and outpatients with acute symptoms or other urgent issues.*

Surgical and Endoscopy Services and Outpatient Clinics: All surgical and endoscopy appointments, and Outpatient Clinics have been cancelled until at least June 1, 2020. However, requisitions and referrals received through CMH Booking Department will continue to be triaged by our Technicians. Patients will be called and booked appropriately in the future when the restrictions are lifted. Physician's offices have been notified of our current restrictions and process.

Mental Health Services: All group programs are cancelled. All counselling and case management will be by phone support only. For Early Psychosis Intervention Programs, injections will be given in clinic by EPI Nurse, medication renewals and all other regular contacts will be completed by phone. For Psychiatry, medication renewals will be completed by phone. Court Support/Diversion program, all criminal court matters will be postponed, phone support is available. Clients of the Community Mental Health Department who present at the hospital requesting to see their counsellor are asked to call 705-632-2015 instead and leave a message. We will follow up with people as soon as possible (Monday - Friday 8:30-4:30).