



NEWS RELEASE/PUBLIC NOTICE

Norovirus outbreak now lifted – Visitor restrictions no longer in place

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Tuesday, January 28, 2020 – The norovirus outbreak identified on NHH's 2A medical/surgical unit has been lifted.

The outbreak was identified January 20th, and an update issued January 23rd extended visitor restrictions to the adjacent Maternal/Child unit as a precaution. With no new cases reported over the required period, NHH's infection prevention and control practitioners have confirmed with representatives from the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit today that patient-to-patient transmission had been successfully stopped.

Admissions to the unit have resumed and surrounding health care facilities are in the process of being notified. Volunteer activity on the second floor of the hospital will resume in the coming days.

NHH reminds all visitors of the importance of routine infection prevention practices, particularly proper hand hygiene. Hand washing remains one of the single most important infection prevention and control practices to stop transmission of gastrointestinal illness and other infectious diseases both within the hospital environment and in the community. A Backgrounder detailing hand hygiene and other *Visitor Tips for Minimizing the Spread of Infections* is available [here](#).

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About Northumberland Hills Hospital – Located approximately 100 kilometres east of Toronto, NHH delivers a broad range of acute, post-acute, outpatient and diagnostic services. Acute services include emergency and intensive care, medical/surgical care, obstetrical care and palliative care. Post-acute specialty services (PASS) include restorative care and rehabilitation. Mental health care, chemotherapy, dialysis and 16 other ambulatory care clinics are offered on an outpatient basis through partnerships with regional centres and nearby specialists. NHH offers a full range of diagnostic services, including magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT) and mammography. The hospital serves the catchment area of west Northumberland County. A mixed urban and rural population of approximately 60,000 residents, west Northumberland comprises the Town of Cobourg, the Municipality of Port Hope and the townships of Hamilton, Cramahe and Alnwick/Haldimand. NHH employs approximately 600 people and relies on the additional support provided by physicians and volunteers. NHH is an active member of Ontario Health (East) – formerly the Central East Local Health Integration Network. For more information, please visit www.nhh.ca or follow us on Twitter [@NorHillsHosp](https://twitter.com/NorHillsHosp).

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