



PUBLIC NOTICE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MOCK Hospital/Cobourg Police Service Emergency Training Exercise Taking Place August 16

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Wednesday, August 15, 2018—Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) and Cobourg Police Services (CPS) will be coordinating a MOCK emergency training exercise and response on Thursday, August 16th, beginning at 1:00 PM (1300) at the hospital at 1000 DePalma Drive, Cobourg.

The exercise is expected to last for approximately 30 minutes.

Building on training exercises held at the hospital in April of this year, the purpose of the August exercise is to provide another opportunity to test NHH's Code Silver (Active Attacker) response as well as the Cobourg Police Service response, in collaboration with external partners.

The MOCK exercise will build further on previous drills held at NHH. Actors will be used to simulate active attackers and casualties and the sound of gunfire (blanks) will be used.

The mock exercise will take place in multiple locations throughout the hospital and at selected public entrances.

Patient care areas will NOT be part of the mock exercise – the exercise will be limited to public spaces, corridors and waiting areas.

Staff, physicians and volunteers will use the opportunity to apply the “run OR hide OR fight” response set out in Hospital policies and procedures, as appropriate, and to guide visitors, patients and caregivers.

Hospital and police observers (identifiable with vests) will be present to monitor response and document lessons learned and area first responders and emergency preparedness partners will also participate.

The mock training exercise will be videotaped and recorded by the Cobourg Police Service.

Advance communication

In addition to this Public Notice, a variety of external communication tactics are being employed to build awareness in advance of the MOCK exercise, including signage, alerts on the hospital's overhead page system, website postings, social media messages and on-site support from Cobourg Police Service's Auxiliary Members to help guide visitors and patients accordingly. Patients and their families will also be advised in advance of the event.

The support of local media partners to help spread the word of the MOCK exercise in advance is much appreciated. A media area will be provided in front of the hospital, adjacent to the MAIN hospital parking lot, for media observation.

Post exercise press conference

A post-exercise press conference is planned for 4:00 PM in the NHH Education Centre with CPS Chief of Police Kai Liu and NHH President and CEO Linda Davis. Local media are asked to RSVP in advance if they wish to participate in the press conference or observation area by contacting the media contacts, below.

Media contacts: For NHH - Jennifer Gillard, jgillard@nhh.ca or 905-377-7757; For CPS – Acting Staff Sergeant Brent Allison, Brent.Allison@cobourgpolic.com or 905-372-6821, ext. 2234.

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 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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