



NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL

NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Respiratory symptoms? NHH's Cough, Cold and COVID Assessment Centre is here for you!

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Monday, December 5, 2022—Services available in the portable trailer immediately outside Northumberland Hills Hospital's Emergency Department are expanding, as the number of area residents concerned about cough, cold or possible COVID symptoms continues to rise in our area.

Open until at least March 30, 2023, the **NHH Cough, Cold and COVID Assessment Centre** offers a fast and effective assessment and treatment option for anyone experiencing worsening **cough, cold, earaches, sore throats, congestion and fever**—symptoms typically associated with respiratory illnesses like [RSV \(respiratory syncytial virus\)](#), [influenza](#), and [COVID-19](#). All ages are welcome.

Available by appointment only (no walk-ins) the Assessment Centre offers timely help to local families by offering:

- phone-based consultation (often avoiding the need for in-person visits) for those with questions or concerns regarding moderate/worsening cough, cold or COVID-19 symptoms;
- booked appointments with a clinician, often SAME DAY;
- testing, as eligible, including COVID-19 PCR testing, with quick turnaround on results; and
- prescriptions for treatment as applicable.

How to book an appointment

Call **905-377-7783** or **1-833-678-2435** to speak to a member of the NHH Cough, Cold and COVID Assessment team. Walk-ins are not permitted, due to space constraints. Appointments must be pre-booked.

In all urgent situations, such as chest pain, severe difficulty breathing, altered state of consciousness, and confusion, call 911 or go directly to the nearest Emergency Department.

“With respiratory viruses circulating so widely, NHH's expanded Cough, Cold and COVID Assessment Centre aims to offer an easy-to-access alternate care option for residents,” said Susan Walsh, NHH President and CEO.

“The aim is that by offering focused care for respiratory illness to both adults and children in the Assessment Centre, we can offer an alternate option to local families

while saving the Emergency Department for emergencies. We are grateful for every member of our team who has stepped up to support this Centre since the beginning of the pandemic, including the dedicated local primary care providers who continue to bring their expertise to the Centre to efficiently and effectively meet local need.”

For further details on location and services, see the related **Frequently Asked Questions** at www.nhh.ca

Media contact: Jennifer Gillard, Senior Director, Patient Experience, Public Affairs and Partnerships, 905-377-7757 or jgillard@nhh.ca.

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, cancer and supportive care, dialysis and 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 63,000 residents, west Northumberland comprises the Town of Cobourg, the Municipality of Port Hope, Alderville First Nation and the townships of Hamilton, Cramahe and Alnwick/Haldimand. NHH employs more than 700 people and relies on the additional support provided by physicians, midwives and volunteers. NHH is an active member of Ontario Health (East)—formerly the Central East Local Health Integration Network—and the Ontario Health Team of Northumberland. For more information, please visit nhh.ca or follow us on Facebook [@northumberlandhillshosp](https://www.facebook.com/northumberlandhillshosp) or Twitter [@NorHillsHosp](https://twitter.com/NorHillsHosp).

-END-