

## INFORMATION BULLETIN

Friday, Sept. 25, 2020

### COVID-19 testing: New provincial guidelines; important changes take effect at Kingston Assessment Centre this weekend

**KINGSTON, ON** – The Province of Ontario announced new COVID-19 testing guidelines Thursday to give priority to those who are at greatest risk. Kingston Health Sciences Centre urges the community to note the updated guidelines and changes that take effect this weekend along with the Community Assessment Centre (AC) moves to the Beechgrove Complex.

#### Who should seek testing?

Effective immediately, you should only seek testing at an AC if you:

- are showing COVID-19 symptoms;
- have been exposed to a confirmed case of the virus, as informed by the Public Health Unit or exposure notification through the COVID Alert app;
- are a resident of or if you work in a setting that has a COVID-19 outbreak, as identified and informed by the Public Health Unit; and
- are eligible for testing as part of a targeted testing initiative directed by the Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Long-Term Care.

The Ministry of Health has also announced that people can get tested at select pharmacies if they are not showing symptoms; however, please note that no pharmacies in our community are offering this testing at this time. Ontario is rolling out up to 60 pharmacy sites beginning this week in preparation for further provincial rollout to follow.

#### What changes go into effect this weekend?

- As of Saturday, the Community AC relocates to the Beechgrove Complex, which lies just south of the King Street West and Portsmouth Avenue intersection. The Leon's Centre location will close.
- As of Saturday, the Community AC operating hours will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily at the Beechgrove Complex. There are no plans for extended hours on the weekend.
- This weekend only, a drive-through testing option is available from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. In-car testing will be limited to four people per vehicle; individuals must have a valid Ontario Health Card with them.
- Rapid throughput of cars through the testing lanes depends on drive-through clients arriving **no sooner than 9 a.m.** Please do not line up on roadways beforehand. Preventing traffic congestion on the Beechgrove property and adjacent streets will support the smooth operation of the drive-through process.

For more information about the COVID-19 Assessment Centre, please visit [www.KingstonHSC.ca/COVID19](http://www.KingstonHSC.ca/COVID19). To obtain COVID-19 test results online, please visit <https://covid-19.ontario.ca>.

**Media Contact:**  
Kristen Lipscombe

Strategic Communications Advisor  
Kingston Health Sciences Centre  
Cell: (613) 583-1377  
Office: (613) 549-6666 ext. 6875  
Email: [kristen.lipscombe@kingstonhsc.ca](mailto:kristen.lipscombe@kingstonhsc.ca)

## **ABOUT KINGSTON HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE**

Kingston Health Sciences Centre (KHSC) is southeastern Ontario's complex, acute and specialty care, research and teaching hospital. Consisting of our Hotel Dieu Hospital (HDH) site and Kingston General Hospital (KGH) site, as well as the Cancer Centre of Southeastern Ontario and our research institute, we care for more than 500,000 patients and their families from across our region. As one of the region's largest employers, we are home to nearly 5,000 staff members, more than 2,000 health-care learners and 1,000 volunteers who are committed to partnering with patients and families to ensure that we continually provide high quality, compassionate care. Fully affiliated with Queen's University, we are ranked as one of Canada's top research hospitals. As a teaching hospital, we attract some of the nation's brightest learners to pursue their health care education, which helps to create the capacity to provide highly specialized services close to home. We train thousands of students every year and are home to hundreds of researchers whose curiosity drives them to make groundbreaking advancements in health care. Please visit [www.kingstonhsc.ca](http://www.kingstonhsc.ca) for more information.