



FINAL

Media Release

Date: May 29, 2020

COVID-19 – Masks Required Inside the Hospitals

Ingersoll/Tillsonburg – Alexandra Hospital Ingersoll (AHI) and Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital (TDMH) want to advise our communities that any person entering the hospitals will be required to wear a mask.

Effective May 29, 2020, AHI and TDMH have moved to having all patients and essential visitors who enter the hospital wear a mask. Patients will be asked prior to their scheduled appointments to bring a mask (cloth or disposable) when they come to the hospital. If patients do not have a mask when they arrive at the hospital, they will be provided with one at the hospital entrance. The same approach will apply to any visitors to the hospital including visiting health professionals, contractors, delivery personnel, and essential patient visitors. Hospital staff are also required to wear masks while in the hospitals.

This decision comes as the province of Ontario begins to relax current pandemic restrictions, and the risk for community spread and circulating COVID-19 virus may increase. Masking in public spaces when physical distancing is not possible was recommended to provide “an added layer of protection” by Canada’s Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Theresa Tam on May 20, 2020.

“Wearing a mask in public is quickly becoming our “new normal”, both in health care settings and also out in public. Anything we can do to stop COVID-19 transmission, and protect our patients and staff is worth any small inconvenience it may cause. Washing your hands, practicing physical distancing, staying home if you feel sick, and wearing a mask are important ways we can fight COVID-19 together,” says Sandy Jansen, President and CEO.

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