



Woodstock Hospital Takes Steps to Reduce Omicron Spread and Preserve Bed Capacity; General Visiting Suspended, Surgical Services Reduced

In response to the concerning upsurge of COVID-19 cases associated with the Omicron variant and in efforts to reduce the risk of infection and exposure for patients and staff, Woodstock Hospital has updated its Family Presence Guidelines.

Effective today, January 5, 2022, general visiting to Woodstock Hospital has been suspended. Those deemed necessary for safety, enabling care, or on compassionate grounds will still be permitted to enter the hospital as essential visitors on a case by case basis. These individuals are required to provide proof of full COVID-19 vaccination upon entry to the hospital.

“Since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak, nearly two years ago, the staff and physicians at Woodstock Hospital have worked tirelessly to provide excellent patient care during uncertain times. Our top priority has always been the safety of our patients, staff, and physicians,” says Perry Lang, Woodstock Hospital President & CEO. “In the face of this highly transmissible Omicron variant, we have a responsibility now more than ever to provide the safest possible environment here at Woodstock Hospital.”

Woodstock Hospital has recently seen an increase of admissions to medicine units and its Critical Care Unit of COVID-19 positive patients.

“As well as suspending general visiting, in alignment with the announcement by Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer of Health to reinstate Directive #2, the hospital will be reducing its surgical services program in order to preserve critical care and inpatients bed capacity to aid in addressing the upcoming surge of potential COVID-19 patients,” says Cindy Smart, Vice-President of Patient Care and Chief Nursing Officer at Woodstock Hospital. “Our physicians are working diligently to prioritize cases and determine which surgeries can safely be postponed. Surgeons’ offices will be in contact with those individuals who will be impacted by this reduction.”

Woodstock Hospital appreciates the support of the community at this time as we all do our part to reduce transmission of the COVID-19 virus and Omicron variant. For more information, please visit our website at www.woodstockhospital.ca. Thank you for your cooperation.

About Woodstock Hospital

Built in November 2011, Woodstock Hospital is a 178 bed, full-service community hospital, providing primary care to a population of 55,000 and specialized care to nearly 110,000 within the County of Oxford. The new facility offers a wide range of health programs including Maternal Child, Women’s Health, Specialized Surgical Services, Inpatient and Outpatient Mental Health Services, Dialysis and Rehabilitation Programs, a Systemic Therapy Program and an MRI. Our full service facility works closely with our community partners to provide our patients with healthcare services, close to home.

Emily Beckenhauer, Communications & Public Relations Officer | Woodstock Hospital
519-421-4233 ext. 2166 | ebeckenhauer@woodstockhospital.ca