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regional hospital and health centre
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Espanola Regional Hospital & Health Center COVID Update

<u>COVID TESTING</u>

COVID TESTING in the Assessment Center at ERHHC will be limited. Members of the public with mild symptoms are asked not to seek testing through the Assessment Center but to follow provincial self-isolation guidance.

Testing will be available only for high-risk individuals who are symptomatic and/or are at risk of severe illness from COVID-19, tests confirming a COVID-19 diagnosis to begin treatment, workers and residents in the highest risk settings, and vulnerable populations.

Individuals who are inquiring about COVID testing please call the ERHHC Assessment Centre at 705-869-1420 ext. 4500. Booking on-line will not be available at this time. Calls will be answered by a member of our clinical staff within 24-48 hours of leaving a message. If you meet the testing guidelines of the Ministry of Health a test will be booked.

<u>**Asymptomatic Testing**</u>**:** If you require a test for a preoperative procedure / appointment, please call the Assessment Centre and leave a message

Please do not call the Emergency Department for COVID testing inquiries your call will be redirected to the Assessment Centre extension.

If you are having difficulty breathing or experiencing other severe symptoms, call 911 immediately. Advise them of your symptoms and travel history.

<u>**Emergency Department**</u>

With increased patient visits/ occupancy to our ED you can expect an increase in our wait time to see a physician.

Please remember that patients are seen according to their urgency / acuity and not according to their time of arrival to the department. Nursing staff will triage you on your arrival and place you to be seen by the physician as soon as possible.

We ask that you are respectful of our staff as we continue to experience increased staffing pressures related to the pandemic. We are doing our best to serve the community during this challenging time.