Baycrest

Jan 20, 2022

COVID-19 Outbreak
Control Measures – Hospital 7 East

Case Definition: any clients or staff with fever or lab confirmation of COVID-19.

SURVEILLANCE

1. New clients presenting with any one symptom compatible with COVID-19 will be tested;
2. Active surveillance will be initiated for clients (IPAC) and staff (OHS) on the affected unit;
3. IPAC and OHS will conduct contact tracing among clients and staff, respectively;

SIGNAGE

1. Special Droplet/Contact Precautions signs will be posted on the doors of all cases presenting with fever or any one symptom compatible for COVID-19;
2. Respiratory Outbreak signs shall be posted on the entrances to the affected unit. Doors to the unit must stay shut for the duration of the outbreak;

ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS & PPE

1. Clients with suspected/confirmed COVID-19 will be placed on Special Droplet & Contact Precautions;
2. Entries into the rooms of clients on Special Droplet/Contact Precautions must be kept to a minimum;
3. Nursing and medical staff will use 'clustered care' whenever possible, to keep the number of entries into the rooms of clients on Special Droplet/Contact Precautions;
4. A limited number of nursing staff will be designated to provide care to the line-listed cases per shift, when possible,
5. Isolation carts will be stocked with face shields, gloves, gowns and disinfectant wipes;
6. Trained staff will use 'buddy system' for donning and doffing of PPE;
7. Continuous masking policy is in effect for all staff and contractors in client care and common areas;
8. Masks should only be removed for eating/drinking, and during this time, staff must maintain social distancing (min. 2m) and use hand hygiene after touching their mask;
9. Universal use of eye protection policy is in effect on the affected unit. Staff and essential visitors must wear eye protection when within less than 2m of any client, symptomatic or not;

ACCOMMODATION, COHORTING & ROOM RESTRICTIONS

1. Line-listed cases shall be restricted to their rooms;
2. Whenever possible, COVID positive clients will be segregated into a private room or cohorted as per IPAC;
3. Whenever possible, all clients (line-listed or not) shall be restricted to their rooms;
4. Community leaves of absence are NOT permitted;
5. Rehab gym activities are discontinued;
6. Client communal gathering spaces (e.g. TV lounge) are closed;

7. When possible, all of the mobile equipment in the rooms of clients on Special Droplet/Contact Precautions must be *dedicated* to those rooms;
8. Mobile equipment that cannot be dedicated (e.g. personal stethoscopes) must be thoroughly wiped with disinfectant wipes and/or alcohol-based hand rub before taken out of the room;
9. For ambulating line-listed cases a commode will be placed in the shared Hospital rooms;

APPOINTMENTS, GROUP ACTIVITIES & FOOD DELIEVERY

1. Medical and out-patient appointments are at the discretion of MRPs. Transport personnel and the receiving facility must be notified;
2. If approved, urgent medical appointments should be scheduled at the end of the day, when possible. Unit must provide a mask for client to wear while out of the home unit;
3. All group activities are discontinued on the affected unit;
4. Food for clients on Special Droplet/Contact Precautions will be delivered by F&NS staff to the unit on reusable trays → moved onto disposable trays with disposable utensils → and delivered to the patients by nursing staff;

ADMISSIONS, RE-ADMISSIONS, TRANSFERS, AND LEAVES OF ABSENCE (LOA)

1. The affected unit is closed to new admissions;
2. Leaves of absences are not permitted for the duration of the outbreak;
3. Early discharges are permitted;
4. Families wishing to take home clients from the affected unit will be allowed to do so. They must be informed of the risk of transmission;
5. Inter-facility transfers to be coordinated through Toronto Public Health. The receiving facility to be notified;

STAFF, PRIVATE COMPANIONS, STUDENTS, VOLUNTEERS, VISITORS

1. Staff who have tested positive or are ill/symptomatic cannot attend work and must be cleared by OHS prior to returning to work;
2. Staff shall limit communal gathering (e.g. in the staff lounge) and observe social distancing principles;
3. Students are permitted to work with line listed cases;
4. General visitors, personal companions, and volunteers are NOT permitted on the unit for the duration of the outbreak;
5. Only 'essential visitors' are permitted but are restricted to their client's room;
6. Essential visitors for clients on Special Droplet/Contact precautions must be informed of the risk;
7. If staff develop symptoms while at work, they must notify OHS and stay off work;

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, WASTE DISPOSAL & TERMINAL CLEANING

1. EVS will perform enhanced cleaning and disinfection in the rooms of line listed clients;
2. Trained staff will support EVS using 'buddy system' for donning and doffing of PPE;
3. Nursing staff will double-bag garbage and linen hampers for pickup by EVS staff in the hallway;
4. Upon discontinuation of Special Droplet/Contact Precautions, EVS personnel will perform a supervised 2-stage terminal cleaning and complete the checklist;

DISCONTINUATION OF PRECAUTIONS

1. Discontinuation of precautions for the line-listed cases will be based on a time-based approach and will be determined in consultation with Toronto Public Health;
2. Declaring the outbreak over will be determined in consultation with Toronto Public Health;