

Update on the COVID-19 outbreak at Saint-Jérôme regional hospital

Saint-Jérôme, July 14, 2020 – The Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux (CISSS) des Laurentides is making every effort to contain the current outbreak of COVID-19 at Saint-Jérôme regional hospital. Although the situation is gradually improving, it is important that our healthcare teams continue their efforts until the virus is completely eradicated.

“Our leadership team and all the members of our staff take this situation very seriously. We are sparing no effort to defeat COVID-19 in our four infected units, knowing the health and safety of our patients and personnel are at stake,” said President and Executive Director Rosemonde Landry.

Many steps are being taken

Our teams are working hard to stem the spread within the hospital. All members of staff are mobilized, monitoring for symptoms and applying best practices for infection prevention.

Widespread testing of all our staff has been ongoing since last week, to get an accurate picture of the situation and make it possible to better contain the virus. As of July 13, 1629 employees, doctors and managers had undergone testing for COVID-19, of whom 18 individuals were found to be infected. They have been replaced until they are fully recovered, to prevent transmitting the virus.

Since June 7, a total of 93 patients and 99 employees have contracted COVID-19. Many of these have already recovered. These figures are the cumulative total since the beginning of the outbreak in the hospital.

More is being done to fight the virus at Saint-Jérôme regional hospital, including:

- Major cleaning of an entire hospital unit has begun;
- The auditorium is now being used as changing rooms for employees and doctors (to avoid any clothing and personal belongings transmitting the virus);
- Testing days have been added for employees and doctors;
- Infection prevention and control personnel have been added;
- Hygiene and sanitation personnel have been added;
- Patients being tested as soon as they are admitted;
- Increased monitoring of hospitalised patients' symptoms;
- Daily operations committee meetings to review outbreak-related procedures, followed by management meetings with the special advisory committee.

All our services are involved

“I want to thank all our staff and medical personnel for their wholehearted commitment to defeating this invisible foe. COVID-19 is not easily controlled, but thanks to all the hard work and perseverance of our brave and generous colleagues, I am convinced that we will prevail. We are doing all that we can to succeed,” said Ms. Landry.

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