

Operations Division Occupational Health and Safety

Field Visit Report

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OHS Case ID: **04224PHDP082**
Field Visit no: **03835PHLT263** Visit Date: **2020-APR-29** Field Visit Type: **FOLLOW-UP**

Workplace Identification: **MICHAEL GARRON HOSPITAL (FORMERLY TEGH)** Notice ID:
825 COXWELL AVENUE, EAST YORK, ON, CANADA M4C 3E7

Telephone: **(416) 461-8272** JHSC Status: **Active** Work Force #: **2500** Completed %:

Persons Contacted: **WORKPLACE PARTIES.**
Visit Purpose: **COVID-19 COMPLAINT.**
Visit Location: **BY TELEPHONE.**
Visit Summary: **ORDER ISSUED.**

Detailed Narrative:

The purpose of this visit was to continue to follow up on the complaint related to respiratory protection in the Intensive Care Unit.

This inspector received information from the employer on:


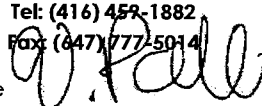

- April 15
- Virtual Open Forum, April 14, Closed Captions.pdf
- PPE N95 Checklist 04-03-20 Final.pdf
- Covid-19 update: 5 questions with dr. Janine McCready, PPE and Safety Tips Fr: Sarah Downey and Dr. Jeff Powis, April 14, 4:35 p.m.
- Safety Tips for Healthcare Workers, TEHN 2020, 1 page
- Protected Planned Intubation, March 24, 2020, 1 page

April 23

- Information in body of e-mail.
- PHO Covid-19, Aerosol Generation from Coughs and Sneezes, April 10 2020, 7 pages
- Ontario Health, Toronto Region COVID-19 Hospital Operations Table, Recommended Guidelines for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Conservation, Version Date: March 30, 2020, 14 pages.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) use during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Recommendations on the use and conservation of PPE from Ontario Health, Release date: March 30, 2020, 16 pages.
- (medical journal article) Plos One, Aerosol Generating Procedures and Risk of Transmission of Acute Respiratory Infections to Healthcare Workers: A Systematic Review, Khai Tran, Karen Cimon, Melissa Severn, Carmem L. Pessoa-Silva, John C
- National Services Scotland, Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGPs), 12 pages.

This inspector conducted field visits on:

- April 11, 2020
- April 15, 2020

Recipient	Inspector Data	Worker Representative
Name <u>Matt Brown</u>	VALENTINA PARKER OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY INSPECTOR PROVINCIAL OFFENCES OFFICER	Name <u>JUDY ELASMAR</u>
Title <u>NHS Supervisor</u>	5001 Yonge St. Rm 1600 North York ON M7A 0A3 MOLCOMPLIANCEIHSTORN@ONTARIO.CA Tel: (416) 452-1882 Fax: (416) 777-5014	Title <u>CO-CHAIR JHS WORKER</u>
Signature <u></u>	Signature <u></u>	Signature <u></u>

You are required under the Occupational Health and Safety Act to post a copy of this report in a conspicuous place at the workplace and provide a copy to the health and safety representative or the joint health and safety committee if any. Failure to comply with an order, decision or requirement of an inspector is an offence under Section 66 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act. You have the right to appeal any order or decision within 30 days of the date of the order issued and to request suspension of the order or decision by filing your appeal and request in writing on the appropriate forms with the Ontario Labour Relations Board, 505 University Ave., 2nd Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5G 2P1. You may also contact the Board by phone at (416) 326-7500 or 1-877-339-3335 (toll free), mail or by website at <http://www.olrb.gov.on.ca/english/homepage.htm> for more information.

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This inspector spoke to the employer contacts related to this matter on:

April 17 – Spoke with:
Matt Brown - Health and Safety Supervisor
Mary Richardson, Manager of OHS Marilyn
Marilyn Lee, Manager of ICU

No worker representative was available at the time of the phone call (2:30 pm). There was a brief discussion. The employer representatives maintained their stance that N95 respirators were not required to be worn by workers assisting with proning and repositioning of prone patients who are on ventilators in the ICU. It was agreed that this inspector would call back on Monday, April 20 to conduct a field visit with worker representatives present.

April 20 – Spoke with Matt Brown.

This inspector decided to speak to Mr. Brown and request further documentation before conducting a return field visit by phone. Mr. Brown agreed to provide this inspector with additional information to explain the employer's decision to not provide N95 respirators to workers assisting with proning and repositioning of patients on ventilators by the end of the week.


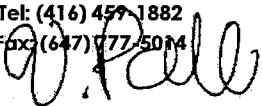

It was reported to this inspector that there had been ventilator circuit disconnects during a procedure called proning. Proning refers to repositioning a patient who is on a ventilator from their back onto their stomach. Registered nurses and respiratory therapists are present for this process and it takes at least 3 workers. As well, once a patient is proned, or placed on their stomach on a ventilator, their head must be repositioned every 2 hours. A registered nurse and respiratory therapist are present for this. The ventilator circuit disconnects with the endotracheal tube separating from the ventilator tubing near the patient's face. It was reported that disconnects had occurred at least 3 times in the recent past.

Inspector Findings:

As per COVID-19 Directive #5 for hospitals and long-term care homes, issued April 10, 2020, states:

-A point-of-care risk assessment (PCRA) must be performed by every health care worker before every patient or resident interaction in a public hospital or long-term care home.

-If a health care worker determines, based on the PCRA, and based on their professional and clinical judgement, that health and safety measures may be required in the delivery of care to the patient or resident, then the public hospital or long-term care home must provide that health care worker with access to the

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Title _____	5001 Yonge St. Rm 1600 North York ON M7A 0A3 MOLCOMPLIANCEIHSTORN@ONTARIO.CA	Title _____
Signature 	Tel: (416) 457-1882 Fax: (647) 777-5014 Signature 	Signature 

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appropriate health and safety control measures, including an N95 respirator. The public hospital or long-term care home will not unreasonably deny access to the appropriate PPE.

It was determined that health care workers are performing PCRA's and using professional judgement to request N95 respirators prior to providing selected types of care to Covid positive patients in the Intensive Care Unit. The employer declined to provide access to N95 respirators to the healthcare workers who had requested them. Therefore the employer is not taking every precaution reasonable in the circumstances to protect workers from the hazard of exposure to Covid containing aerosols. Order issued.

A copy of this report shall be provided to the Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC) and posted in the workplace.

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Title _____	5001 Yonge St. Rm 1600 North York ON M7A 0A3 MOLCOMPLIANCEIHSTORN@ONTARIO.CA	Title _____
Signature <i>ME</i>	Tel: (416) 459-1882 Fax: (416) 777-5014 Signature <i>V. Parker</i>	Signature <i>JL</i>

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Order(s) / Requirement(s) Issued To:


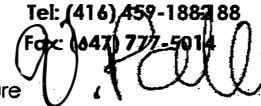

To: **MICHAEL GARRON HOSPITAL** Org/Ind Role **Owner**

Mailing Address:
825 COXWELL AVE, EAST YORK, ON, CA M4C 3E7

Order(s) / Requirement(s) Description:

You are required to comply with the order(s) / requirement(s) by the dates listed below.

No	Type Code	ActReg	Year	Sec.	Sub Sec.	Clause	Text of Order/Requirement	Comply by Date
1	Time 03835PJBP295	OHS	1990	25	2	h	The employer shall take every precaution reasonable in the circumstances to protect registered nurses from Covid-19 where the worker's Point of Care Risk Assessment in relation to a suspected or Covid-19 positive patient has established a need for specific personal protective equipment. At the time of inspection, registered nurses were denied N95 respirators as required by their Point of Care Risk Assessment and their professional and clinical judgment when proning and repositioning proned Covid positive patients on ventilators in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). The employer declined to provide these workers access to N95 respirators for proning and repositioning proned Covid positive patients on ventilators.	2020-APR-30

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Signature 	Tel: (416) 459-1887 88 Fax: (416) 777-5014 Signature 	Signature 

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