

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## One hospital unit experiencing Influenza outbreak

*Kenora, ON, January 7, 2025* – An Influenza outbreak has been declared on one unit of Lake of the Woods District Hospital (LWDH) – Schedule 1 Psychiatry. The LWDH Infection Control team is investigating the outbreak and is working collaboratively with the Northwestern Health Unit to ensure effective control strategies.

The health and safety of our patients, their families and our entire hospital team is our utmost priority. Considering the outbreak, **visitor restrictions have been implemented to the affected unit. The restriction is effective Tuesday, January 7, 2025 @ 1300hrs until further notice.** Visitors are permitted in other areas of the hospital as per the visitor policy. Please do not visit your loved one if you are experiencing any symptoms.

LWDH has noticed an increase in Influenza hospitalization. Public Health Ontario states that Influenza spreads from person-to-person through coughing, sneezing or having face-to-face contact. It can cause mild to severe respiratory disease. While anyone can get Influenza, the very young, the elderly and people with certain medical conditions are at higher risk of complications. The best way to prevent infection is to receive the seasonal Influenza vaccine every year.

Your patience and understanding are appreciated. LWDH will provide updates on the outbreak as we are able to.

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