

Number 3, April 14, 2020

The RVH supply situation

As with all healthcare organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic, RVH is practicing careful stewardship of our personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies, while keeping the safety of patients, staff and physicians as our top priority, and following directives received from Public Health.

“Obtaining an adequate supply of PPE has been one of the biggest challenges for RVH as we plan to respond to the surge of patients with COVID-19 requiring medical care. Ensuring the safety of our staff and physicians—our most valuable resource—is of utmost importance, and critical to our success in managing this pandemic,” stated Dr. Steve Radke, RVH Chief of Staff.

In order to ensure that appropriate PPE is available for healthcare providers, RVH...

- is in daily contact with our regular suppliers
- is sourcing supplies from alternate sources
- is managing inventory responsibly according to circumstances
- is closely monitoring our daily ‘burn-rate’ (usage)
- participates in both Renfrew County and regional groups to help coordinate supplies
- reached out to the community for assistance

Thank you to the businesses and individuals who answered the call to help protect our healthcare workers on the front line. Your generosity has been nothing short of incredible. The combination of donated supplies and inventory on hand puts RVH in a good position for the time being. However we are asking for the community’s continued support to help meet ongoing/increasing needs.

If you are able to donate supplies please contact Patti Dillabough at 613-433-4537;

dillaboughp@renfrewhosp.com

The list of equipment our staff needs to work safely includes:

N95 respirator masks

- used during aerosol-generating medical procedures—any procedure that can induce the production of aerosols (droplets) and increase the risk of spreading airborne organisms

Surgical/procedural masks

- used by health care workers caring for individuals with suspected or confirmed cases of Covid-19 along with isolation gown, gloves and eye protection
- used by patients suspected of or confirmed with Covid-19

Caps, gloves, gowns, hand sanitizer, visors, wipes



RVH nurse in full PPE

If you decide to wear a mask when you go out, be sure to wear and discard it properly. Continue to wash your hands frequently with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer and please continue to stay home if you can and practise physical distancing if you must go out.