Perth and Smiths Falls District Hospital
Executive Committee
Wednesday, June 3, 2020, 11:30 a.m.
Teleconference

Present: G. Church, J. Hewitt, D. Howard, N. Shaw, Dr. K. Stolee

Regrets: Dr. B. Guppy

In Attendance: K. Kelly, Recording Secretary

The discussions of the Executive Committee during the COVID-19 Pandemic are treated as closed session notes. N. Shaw provided an update on matters in Dr. B. Guppy's absence.

Closed session at 11:30 a.m.

COVID-19 Updates

- Workloads are monitored and staff are managing well

CAC

There have been increased volumes with the PSFDH CAC providing 60 assessments per day. The CAC continues to support the Ministry requirement to open access to testing

Hospitals continue to receive many Ministry communications regarding testing. The Ministry has requested that organizations consider testing hospital employees (note, this is not mandatory.) PSFDH has had 133 staff members and physicians tested. There has been internal discussion on how to manage this request to support staffing resources.

Mandatory testing will occur for long term care homes and move to other congregate settings. A memo was received yesterday indicating that hemodialysis patients and staff are to be tested between June 8 and June 30. PSFDH has inquired at KHSC to ensure that they have met the requirements to ensure compliance. The PSFDH dialysis unit is a satellite unit for KHSC.

Pandemic Pay Update

N. Shaw updated that an emergency order was issued on Saturday, May 30 regarding eligibility criteria for pandemic pay. The list of eligible workers is not inclusive and a significant number of key employees. The OHA is appealing with the support of all hospitals and seeking clarification on how the Ministry determined the lists. The lists cannot be expanded and hospitals are barred from doing so. No funding has been received yet and the hospital has not paid out any pandemic pay.

Surgical Services Ramp Up

PSFDH continues to work with regional partners on surgical ramp up approach. PSFDH has the required criteria for ramping up services and continues to work hard on IPAC measures, wait lists and prioritization.

Internal discussions taking place to complete the required feasibility assessment.

ALC

There are approximately 22 ALC inpatients today and movement is impacted due to the current freeze on moving out ALC patients to LTC. N. Shaw noted that some hospitals are receiving pushback from families given the LTC (COVID-19) environment. To date, we have not experienced any pushback. She noted that ALC numbers are increasing regionally as well.

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N. Shaw noted that the number of LTC beds may be reduced given the current cohort style (reduced to only three patients or less to a room. This has not yet been legislated.

Ramping Up of Services
PSFDH continues to provide OR for urgent/emergent cases and not yet elective. K. Stolee advised that we are developing a common messaging for regional approach to surgical services. Each hospital will prepare its own communication while sharing the common themes. General discussion ensued. It was noted that the incidence of COVID-19 is similar throughout the region per Dr. G. Evans, IPAC lead at KHSC. If this shifts to more than 2-3%, consideration will be given to ramping down again. This will be regularly monitored.

Staff Morale
Generally, staff members are faring well outside of the pandemic pay issues. Staff are being encouraged to plan vacation. K. Stolee added that physicians are also encouraged to take off time.

Parking Gates
Parking at both sites has been reinstated. There have been complaints received at the GWM Site given that there is no ability to drop off at the door without paying. A plan to manage on a short term basis has been developed. An update will be shared on the Hospital's Corporate Facebook page. The matter was also discussed at the recent Finance Committee meeting.

Chief of Staff Update
Dr. K. Stolee reported that the focus has been on ramping up and PSFDH is in a good position to meet the requirements by the end of week. She noted that we are generally ready for a potential 2nd wave given the 1st wave experience and learning. A meeting with the surgical group and IPAC resources (from KHSC) was held last evening. PSFDH is exploring the use of reusable ½ face respirators.

PPE
PSFDH continues to work with 3SO for procurement to build resources in anticipation of 2nd wave and to build a pandemic supply.

Executive Committee COVID-19 Response – D. Howard
- Suggested stopping the meetings on a weekly basis based on the survey responses.
- Return to regular monthly meetings for committees unless the situation changes
- Revert to the regular schedule of Executive Committee and have in advance of the regular board meeting
- D. Howard will send a general email to board members on the survey results and next steps

J. Hewitt appreciates the reports.

End of call 12:06 p.m.

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