

March 31, 2020

COVID-19 Assessment Centre in Winchester to Open on April 1st

A new COVID-19 assessment centre in Winchester will open on April 1st. The Centre is being operated by Winchester District Memorial Hospital (WDMH) staff and physicians, in partnership with the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU). This centre is exclusively for the purpose of COVID-19 assessments.

The assessment centre is located in the Lions Club hall at 515 Albert Street and will be open Monday to Friday, from 12 to 6 pm. Parking is available behind the hall and there is signage to guide patients to the appropriate entrance.

“The aim of the assessment centre is to increase access to COVID-19 testing for EOHU area residents, while reducing the strain on 911, EMS and hospital emergency rooms so that they can focus on urgent care,” says Dr. Paul Roumeliotis, Medical Officer of Health at the Eastern Ontario Health Unit. “It will also reduce the risk of spreading the virus in hospitals and doctors’ offices, helping us to protect healthcare workers and other patients from COVID-19 infection.”

How To Access the Assessment Centre

- Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms (such as fever and worsening cough), is first encouraged to go to the Ministry of Health’s website and [complete a self-assessment online](#) and follow the recommendations.
- You can also contact your primary care provider or call Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000. **People with moderate, worsening (but non-severe) symptoms** may be referred to the assessment centre. The decision to test will be based on Ministry of Health guidelines.
- Anyone experiencing severe symptoms such as difficulty breathing should call 911 or go to the hospital emergency room.

“WDMH is grateful for this partnership with the Eastern Ontario Health Unit. This COVID-19 assessment centre will help protect our patients, their families, our staff and our physicians,” states Cholly Boland, WDMH CEO. “The hope is we can stay ahead of the game and prevent the spread of the virus as much as possible.”

For the latest updates on COVID-19 and local assessment centres, please visit the Eastern Ontario Health Unit’s website at www.eohu.ca. For the latest updates from WDMH, please visit www.wdmh.on.ca/coronavirus.

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WINCHESTER COVID-19 ASSESSMENT CENTRE

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Where is the Assessment Centre?

- The Assessment Centre is in the Lions Club hall at 515 Albert Street. Parking is at the back of the hall.
- There is signage to provide instructions for patients.

When is it open?

- It is open from 12 to 6 pm from Monday to Friday. Patients are advised to use physical distancing at the Assessment Centre.

How do I access the Assessment Centre?

- Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms (such as fever and worsening cough), is first encouraged to go to the Ministry of Health's website and [complete a self-assessment online](#) and follow the recommendations.
- You can also contact your primary care provider or call Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000. People with moderate, worsening (but non-severe) symptoms may be referred to the Assessment Centre. The decision to test will be based on Ministry of Health guidelines.
- Anyone experiencing severe symptoms such as difficulty breathing should call 911 or go to the hospital emergency room.

What happens at the Assessment Centre?

- As a patient coming to the Assessment Centre, you will have to sanitize your hands and put on a mask. You will be screened, tested (if deemed appropriate) and provided with further directions. These directions may be to go home with no further action required, or to go home and self-isolate while awaiting the test result. If deemed necessary, you may also be sent to the WDMH Emergency Department for further assessment.
- Please bring your health card or one piece of identification.
- The EOHU will follow-up with patients who are tested for COVID-19.
- Patients should come alone unless they require support or an interpreter.

Can I come to the Assessment Centre for other health issues?

- The Assessment Centre is not a walk-in clinic and cannot provide "doctor sick notes".

More Questions?

- Visit the EOHU's website at www.eohu.ca or the WDMH website at www.wdmh.on.ca
- Call the EOHU at 613-933-1375 or 1-800-267-7120.