

COVID-19 Assessment Centre Opening in Rockland

The Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU), in partnership with the Hawkesbury and District General Hospital and the Clarence-Rockland Family Health Team, is opening a COVID-19 assessment centre in Rockland on April 7th, 2020. The centre is located at the Clarence-Rockland Family Health Team's office, at 2741 Chamberland Street. The centre will be open by appointment only Monday through Saturday each week. Please call 613-933-1375 or 1 800 267-7120 for a referral.

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, primary care and hospital emergency rooms so that they can focus on urgent care. "We're hoping that opening the assessment centre will also reduce the risk of spreading the virus in hospitals and doctors' offices, protecting healthcare workers and other patients from COVID-19 infection," says Dr. Paul Roumeliotis, Medical Officer of Health.

Assessment centre limited to people with moderate, worsening (but non-severe) symptoms

The EOHU stresses that not everyone who is concerned that they may have COVID-19 should call for a referral to the assessment centre. Only people who have worsening, but not severe, COVID-19 symptoms (such as fever and worsening cough) should go to the centre for testing. Not everyone may be tested; the decision to test will be based on symptoms, travel history, and contact history. For more information about testing, please consult the Ministry of Health's case definition guidelines: http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_testing_clearing_cases_guidance.pdf

Those with mild symptoms that can be managed at home should not show up at the centre as they will not be tested. Individuals with mild symptoms should self-isolate at home for 14 days from the onset of symptoms and notify those that they may have been in contact with 2 days prior to having symptoms. People who have symptoms and are age 70 or over, or who have chronic medical conditions or compromised immune systems should call the EOHU at 613-933-1375 or 1-800-267-7120. Anyone experiencing severe symptoms such as difficulty breathing should call 911 or go to the hospital emergency room.

Additional assessment centres may also open in the region. The EOHU will notify the public when these centres become available.

For more information on the Rockland COVID-19 assessment centre, or on COVID-19 in general, visit www.eohu.ca/coronavirus.