Outbreak Admission
Strategies During the
DOUD-10 PandemicAtght impacted Ontario Community Hospital System

Overview

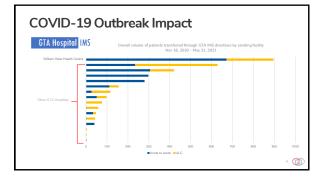
• Overview of COVID-19 challenges

• Highlight practical approaches to admissions to units on OB

• OB Management Admission Framework and impact







O REGION COVID-19 HOSPITAL OPERATIONS TABLE

- GTA Hospital IMS
- Standard, scalable approach to manage IPAC issues impact hospital capacity and staffing included guidance on:
- Patient placement and cohorting;
- Outbreak management,
- Inter-facility transport,
- Isolation requirements for new admissions,
- HCW exposure management and isolation requirements, and
- HCW movement during COVID-19 outbreaks.

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Outbreak Management Admission Framework (OMAF)

Considerations:

- Outbreak Evolution (VOC's and community surges)
- Patient Population (specialty services)
- Rapid and PCR COVID Testing with electronic notifications (universal vs symptomatic testing)
- Utilization of CT Values (disease onset old vs new infection)
- Hospital Capacity and Constraints (HHR and Surge volumes)

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FRAMEWORK

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Outbreak Management Admission Framework

Provided specific guidance based on Osler's capacity constraints including:

- Availability of beds (private rooms; ICU Capacity; ER volumes)
- Health human resources (staffing shortages)

Internal triggers (red/yellow/green) were utilized to calibrate outbreak management admission guidelines that:

- Reflected progressive organizational capacity constraints and
- External environmental conditions

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New OMAF for COVID-19

- Developed in May 2022
- Aligned with GTA IMS/TR HOT
- Reflected Osler's internal hospital capacity constraints
- ${\scriptstyle \bullet}$ Supported safe admissions to COVID-19 outbreak units
- Involved collaboration with Patient Flow and Admitting

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New OMAF

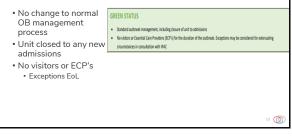
The plan to admit new patients are made by the Outbreak Management Team (OMT) after:

- Assessment of the outbreak's progress,
- Patient population and
- · Level of hospital capacity constraints





Admission Guidelines Green – Usual **Business**



Admission Guidelines Yellow - Moderate Strain

- OB unit closed to admissions
- Exceptions specialty units 2-3 cohorts (+ve cases-Existing patients-new admissions)
 - +ve cases transferred to the COVID unit
 - Cohort based on level of exposure
 Use of COVID virally cleared patients
 -ve rapid test & PCR test pending

 - No visitors
 - ECP's N95 fit-tested & Vaccinated



Admission Guidelines Red - High Strain

- Same as Yellow except:
- OB unit remains open to admissions regardless of specialty/service



The Results

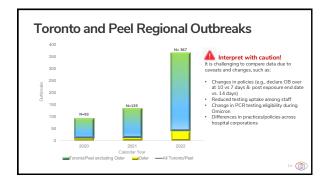


New OMAF demonstrated new admissions could be safely admitted if:

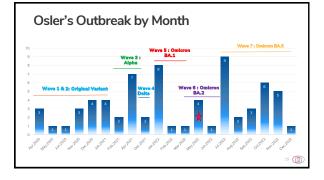
- Appropriate IPAC measures are implemented and FOLLOWED
 Collaboration with and support from Patient Flow, Admitting and the unit at the onset of the OB
- Clear direction and communication is provided to front-line staff

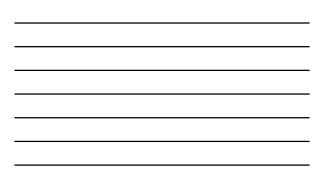
This new OMAF facilitated patient flow and helped mitigate some ER capacity challenges.

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Results

- Shortened the duration of COVID-19 outbreaks from an average of 19 days (April 2020 to April 2022) to 13 days (May 2022 to date)
- Maintained an attack rate about 22% during the multiple waves of the more highly transmissible Omicron sub-variant surges.
- Less outbreaks than other Hospital in our regions



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