



Media Release

For Immediate Release

Waterloo Wellington COVID Report

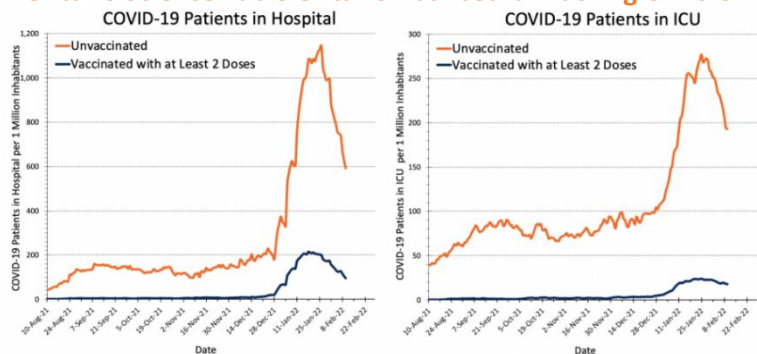
Waterloo Region & Wellington County | February 11, 2022 – Attached is the Waterloo Wellington COVID Report for Friday, February 11, 2022 that local hospitals have committed to jointly providing on Tuesdays and Fridays. Beginning next week, we will be moving to a once-weekly update published on Fridays.

This week, the [Chief Medical of Health issued a memo lifting Directive #2 and updating Directive #2.1](#) to allow hospitals to gradually resume non-urgent and non-emergent surgeries and procedures. Dr. Moore acknowledged capacity challenges and the continued need for hospitals to work together to maximize resources across the system. Given the current occupancy and pressures, similar to many hospitals in Ontario, starting next week Waterloo Wellington hospitals will resume surgeries such as cataracts, some orthopedic procedures, and other general surgeries. Urgent and emergency procedures that require an inpatient stay will continue, as we've done through this wave. Gradually, as hospitalizations for COVID-19 continue to go down, and those currently in our care for COVID recover, we will continue with the ongoing increase in surgery as feasible.

Waterloo Wellington hospitals continue to work together as a system of care to smooth capacity across the community which may include the requirement, as part of Directive #2.1, to transfer patients when necessary.

As a community, we continue to care for more patients than there are beds and despite local vaccination efforts, a large number of patients being admitted for care severely ill as a result of COVID-19 are unvaccinated. This trend is not unique to the region but reflected across the healthcare system as reported by Ontario Science Table in their Ontario Dashboard.

Ontario Science Table Ontario Dashboard Tracking Omicron



- [Ontario Science Table, Ontario Dashboard Tracking Omicron](#).
Retrieved February 11, 2022.

"What we are seeing at the hospital is that almost every patient coming in with severe COVID, requiring high levels of supplemental oxygen or intubation, are unvaccinated," says Dr. Jon Langridge, Interim Chief, Critical Care Medicine, St. Mary's General Hospital.

"Unfortunately, we are also seeing these patients remain very sick for weeks or even months, some do not survive. For the most part those patients who are vaccinated and get admitted with COVID are much less sick and tend to recover much quicker. It's not political for us working on the front lines, it's just the reality of what we are seeing day after day."

"With the lifting of Directive #2, Waterloo Wellington hospitals will start to gradually further resume surgery starting with an increase in outpatient procedures," says Lee Fairclough, Regional Hospital Lead for COVID response and President, St. Mary's General Hospital. "For those that are waiting for surgery or imaging, the hospital and/or your surgeon's office will reach out to you when your appointment is scheduled. We appreciate your patience and hope that if the trends for hospitalization for COVID continue to decrease, it will create even more opportunity to resume this care."

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Waterloo Wellington Hospital Capacity Report (Omicron Wave)

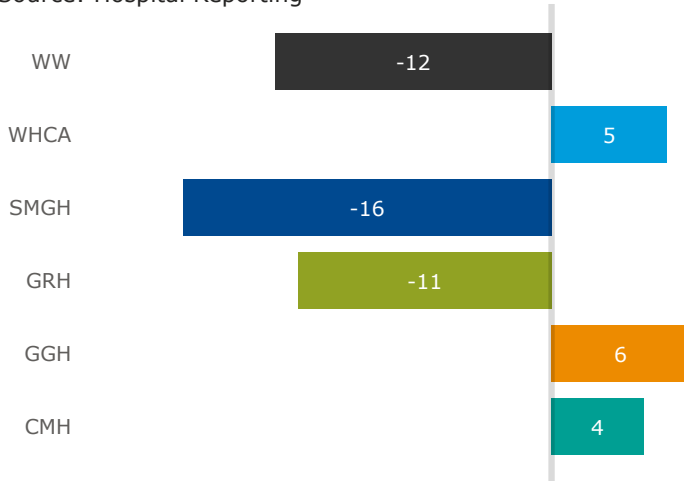
Beds Available and ED Activity

This section highlights available beds at a point in time to support patients presenting at our hospitals. Positive numbers suggest there are beds available to support patients. A negative number means that a hospital is full, and supporting patients waiting for admission from the ED.

Reminder: The total beds in our region has increased by 235, (nearly a third more for each hospital that was able to add beds). To support the recent Omicron surge further additional beds have been added.

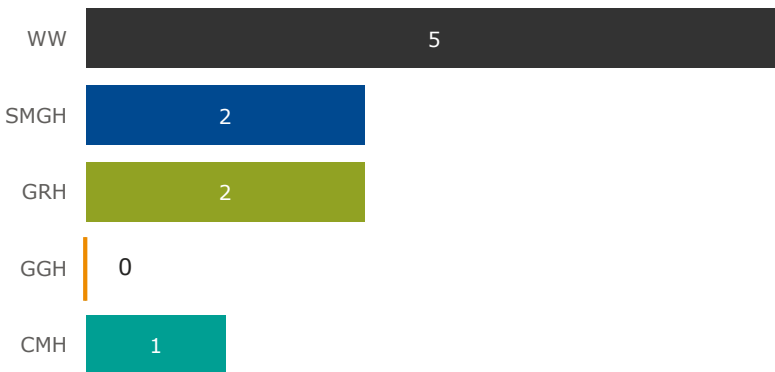
Available Med/Surg Beds (as of 9am)⁽¹⁾

Source: Hospital Reporting



Available ICU Beds (as of 9am)⁽²⁾

Source: Hospital Reporting



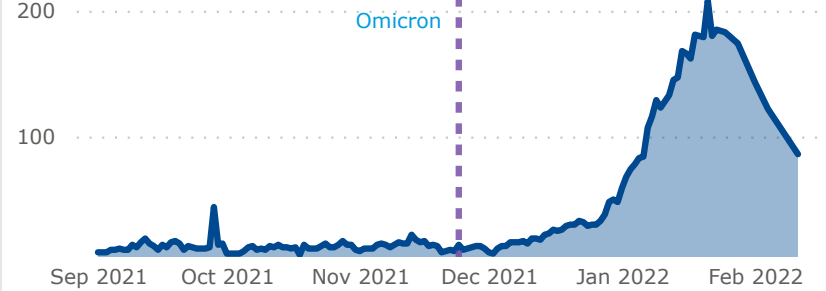
COVID information

● WW ● WHCA ● SMGH ● GRH ● GGH ● CMH

This section describes the number of patients requiring COVID care at our hospitals.

COVID +ve Hospitalizations

Source: MOH SAS



WW COVID +ve Hospitalizations by Vaccination Status(%)

Source: MOH SAS

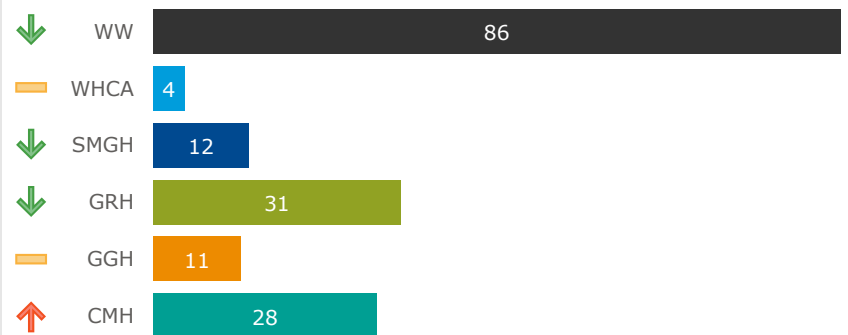


* "Unvaccinated people currently have a 6-fold higher risk of being in the hospital and 12-fold higher risk of being in the ICU compared to people who received 2 or 3 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine."

- Ontario Science Table, Update on COVID-19 Projections, Feb 1, 2022

Current COVID +ve Hospitalizations

Source: Hospital Reporting



Arrows: Compared to last report

Implications of COVID for the workforce

Prevalence of COVID in the community is very high and across all sectors/organizations, and the workforce is being impacted. This section describes the number of staff impacted by COVID (COVID positive, and/or isolating at home due to high-risk contact). It does not reflect additional reasons staff may not be at work.

Staff Impacted by COVID-19⁽³⁾

Source: Hospital Reporting



(1) Incl. open and staffed Med./Surg. beds net of admitted patients waiting in ED or in decant units.

(2) ICU beds are those that are open and staffed.

(3) Staff impacted by COVID (excluding work isolation and other reasons staff may be off)

Refresh Date: 02/11/2022 16:20

For more information please contact the reporting team at reporting@smgh.ca