



**COVID-19 Pandemic Update  
May 8, 2020.**

**RE: One Surgical Mask for Each SJP Resident**

We are happy to announce once more that St. Jacobs Place has continued to remain Healthy and Strong, free from any viral infections. THANK YOU to each and every resident and staff member for your cooperation and efforts to help maintain the health of our beautiful community. It is working!

As you have read in the news, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) has not been available for purchase for weeks. This supply problem has been a critical issue in ensuring staff and residents can protect themselves from this terrible virus. We are pleased to announce that SJP is now receiving some shipments of PPE. This brings a major sigh of relief to us all working to stay healthy.

The things we understand have worked best to prevent spread of the virus are:

- Staying isolated from others physically. (Residents are isolated in their suites, and staff are isolated in their homes. In some circumstances, staff have had to move out of their family home to remain isolated. This is a tremendous sacrifice made by all for the benefit of keeping vulnerable people healthy. And we THANK YOU).
- Wearing a PPE surgical mask to help prevent any virus you may have from contaminating others, and to help prevent you becoming infected by a virus from another person.
- Donning and Doffing PPE properly is key to successfully wearing the PPE so we all remain healthy.
- Aggressive handwashing and continued aggressive sanitizing of touch surfaces

We have been successful in keeping this virus away from us in a climate where the virus is hitting increasing numbers of seniors all around us. Please see today's chart of numbers from the Waterloo Region. The number of infected persons is distinguished into Community at large,

and Seniors' communities, and this shows just how great a threat this virus is to our Retirement Home. At St. Jacobs Place we are doing well, but we are not out of the woods yet. I attended a telephone meeting for the Waterloo Health Region last week where the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Waterloo Region confirmed that there are two pandemics we are battling: one in the community, and one in Retirement and Long Term Care Homes. And she confirmed the one in Retirement and Long Term Care Homes is continuing to increase as the community seems to be settling down.

To keep SJP virus free, staff must continue to wear their surgical mask at all times while at work (except for break times for eating). Also, the Dining Room remains off limits to Residents at this time because it is being used for meal preparation by authorized staff.

Finally, thanks to our consistent efforts to source PPE, we have now received enough PPE that we are able to provide each Resident with one (1) surgical mask to store in their suite for their personal use only. With this new shipment in hand, we can now arrange for scheduled periods of time for residents to visit the SJP back garden area under escort and supervision in accordance with the following procedures:

- Groups of people (Resident and Staff) must total fewer than five (5).
- People must maintain distance apart from one another of more than 6 feet (2 meters).
- Residents must wear their surgical mask at all times outside of their suite.

Process for Arranging time outdoors:

- Please fill out the form attached indicating if you would like to get outside.
- A schedule for the week will be put together based upon interest and capacity to accommodate Resident requests to get outside.
- Residents will be taught to properly Don and Doff their PPE (hand out)
- Residents will need to dress for the weather of the day at their scheduled time
- Residents will need to wash hands with soap and water before donning PPE to leave the suite.
- Residents will need to Doff (remove) their PPE, store it properly, and then wash their hands with soap and water again before touching anything in their suite.

In summary, our combined efforts have kept SJP virus free for over 100 days. But we must remain vigilant and continue to work together until this pandemic has ended. Resident need to be aware that it is safest in your suite with limited face to face interaction with others. This virus is transmitted from person to person and upon surfaces. And a person can be infected without showing any symptoms, so staying away from other is the best defense against the virus at this time.

# Waterloo Region COVID-19 Summary

Last updated:  
2020-05-06 10:30 AM

Positive cases

**871**

Resolved cases

**395**

Total tests

**7,563**

Active LTC & RH outbreaks

**14**

Use the buttons below to navigate to different pages of the dashboard.

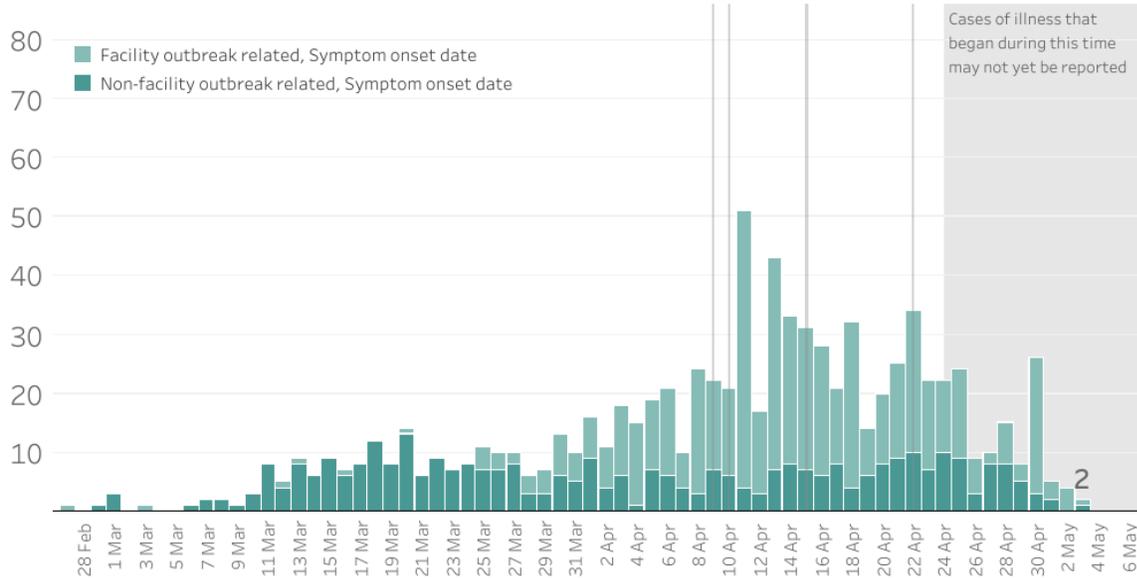
Epi-curves

Characteristics

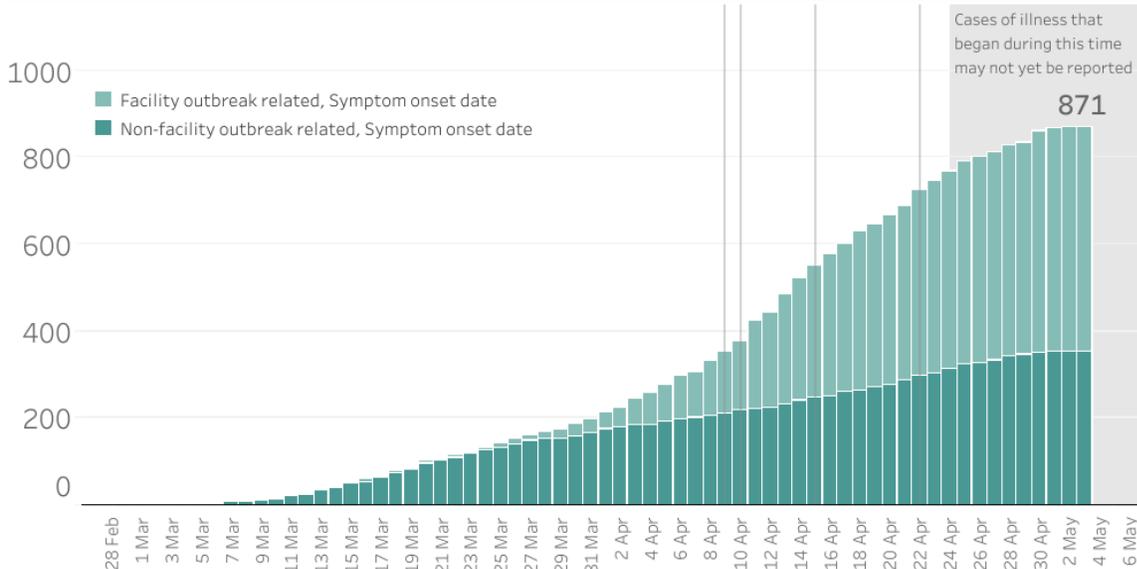
Outbreaks

## New cases by symptom onset date

Change date field:



## Cumulative cases by symptom onset date



Reported date refers to the date the positive test result was received by Region of Waterloo Public Health.

Symptom onset date refers to the date symptoms first appeared, or if unknown, the date the test sample was collected.

Note there is typically a 1-2 week lag between symptom onset and when cases are reported and added to this figure.

Please Fill Out Below and Leave On the Chair Outside Your Suite Door.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, from Suite # \_\_\_\_\_ understand that the safest place during the COVID-19 Pandemic right now is inside my suite. And I understand that even donning a surgical mask for my PPE offers limited protection from obtaining the virus from another person or surface. I understand that St Jacobs Place Retirement Residence continues to sanitize and clean the common areas for continued infection prevention and control.

Given the risks due to the global pandemic,

€ I DO wish to sign up for scheduled time outside of my suite donning PPE and accompanied by a staff member, as long as the home is not in outbreak and I remain free from infection.

OR

€ I wish to remain in my suite at this time and will let St Jacobs Place know if I change my mind in the future and do wish to schedule time outside my suite.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Resident.

\_\_\_\_\_, 2020.