



PRESS RELEASE

**February 11, 2021
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Mandeville Regional Hospital Experiences Upsurge in COVID-19 Cases Among Staff: Implements Surge Plan to Manage

The Mandeville Regional Hospital (MRH) in Manchester is currently reorganising its workflows and implementing its Surge Plan after 34 of its staff members tested positive for the novel coronavirus in recent days.

The hospital has 780 staff members and since March 2020, 61 have contracted the virus, of which 27 have fully recovered and are back at work.

Two microbiologists and a public health team are currently investigating the circumstances under which 27 members of the operating theatre and High Dependency Unit (HDU) teams contracted the virus.

MRH CEO Alwyn Miller disclosed that investigations revealed that 10 of the active cases are likely to have been contracted outside of the hospital.

Mr. Miller further explained that sanitising of the operating theatre is guided by the highest established standards, done after each case, and again at the end of each day.

Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA) Regional Director, Michael Bent noted that the Mandeville Regional Hospital's COVID-19 20-bed isolation ward is at full capacity; but the SRHA which oversees the hospital had anticipated the challenges of the pandemic and developed a Surge Plan for the region (Manchester, Clarendon and St. Elizabeth) in early 2020, which included the identification of additional beds on and off-site to manage any increase in numbers.

“The Surge Plan’s first tier includes repurposing an additional ward to serve as a 16-bed isolation ward and redistribution of patients who can be managed at other hospitals in the region. In addition, there is a 30-bed facility at the Kendal Camp and Conference Centre in Manchester, and
(more)

Chairman: Wayne Chen; **Vice Chairman:** Michael Stern, **Board Members:** Dr. St. Aubyn Bartlett, Lorraine Green Mason, Marcus Greenwood, Stafford Haughton, Winston Maragh, Lennox Powell, Dr. Lloyd Reynolds, Albert Williams, **Permanent Secretary’s Nominee:** Dr. Naydene Williams, **Regional Director and Secretary:** Michael Bent; **Regional Technical Director:** Dr. Vitillius Holder; **CEO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr. Everton McIntosh

Mandeville Reg. Hospital
32 Hargreaves Avenue
Mandeville
Ph: (876) 962-2067/2744/1094
Fax: (876) 625-8493

May Pen Hospital
1 Muirhead Avenue
May Pen
Ph: (876) 986-2528/7708/6938
Fax: (876) 986-2650

Black River Hospital
45 High Street
Black River
Ph: (876) 965-2224/2212
(876) 634-3700
Fax: (876) 965-9294

Percy Junior Hospital
Spalding P.O.
Clarendon
Ph: (876) 964-1181/2222/2322
Fax: (876) 964-1548

Lionel Town Hospital
Bustamante Drive
Vere, Clarendon
Ph: (876) 986-3226
Fax: (876) 986-3373

Chapelton Hospital
Chapelton P.O.
Clarendon
Ph: (876) 987-2215

Manchester Health Dept.
Race Course Rd.
Mandeville
Ph: (876) 962-2288/7033
(876) 625-3433
Fax: (876) 962-2171

Clarendon Health Dept.
1-3 Jackson St. Denbigh
May Pen
Ph: (876) 986-7869
Fax: (876) 986-9713

St. Elizabeth Health Dept
High Street
Black River
Ph: (876) 965-9174-5
Fax: (876) 965-2701



a 12-bed facility at Font Hill, St. Elizabeth, for recovering patients who do not need hospitalization”, Mr. Bent explained.

“We assure the public that while we are stretched, we are not broken, as from the onset of the pandemic we have anticipated most of the challenges we now face. We continue to serve the public in the best way possible in all areas of healthcare, thanks to our dedicated team” Mr. Bent said.

The Regional Director is reminding the public to observe the protocols to reduce the spread of COVID-19; washing or sanitizing hands often, wearing a mask, keeping a distance of 6 feet from others and avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

-30-

For more information contact:

Latoya Laylor Brown
Public Relations Officer
Southern Regional Health Authority
Tel: 962-8232/779-2663
Email: latoya.laylor@srha.gov.jm

Mandeville Reg. Hospital

32 Hargreaves Avenue
Mandeville
Ph: (876) 962-2067/2744/1094
Fax: (876) 625-8493

May Pen Hospital

1 Muirhead Avenue
May Pen
Ph: (876) 986-2528/7708/6938
Fax: (876) 986-2650

Black River Hospital

45 High Street
Black River
Ph: (876) 965-2224/2212
(876) 634-3700
Fax: (876) 965-9294

Percy Junior Hospital

Spalding P.O.
Clarendon
Ph: (876) 964-1181/2222/2322
Fax: (876) 964-1548

Lionel Town Hospital

Bustamante Drive
Vere, Clarendon
Ph: (876) 986-3226
Fax: (876) 986-3373

Chapelton Hospital

Chapelton P.O.
Clarendon
Ph: (876) 987-2215

Manchester Health Dept.

Race Course Rd.
Mandeville
Ph: (876) 962-2288/7033
(876) 625-3433
Fax: (876) 962-2171

Clarendon Health Dept.

1-3 Jackson St. Denbigh
May Pen
Ph: (876) 986-7869
Fax: (876) 986-9713

St. Elizabeth Health Dept

High Street
Black River
Ph: (876) 965-9174-5
Fax: (876) 965-2701

Chairman: Wayne Chen; **Vice Chairman:** Michael Stern, **Board Members:** Dr. St. Aubyn Bartlett, Lorraine Green Mason, Marcus Greenwood, Stafford Haughton, Winston Maragh, Lennox Powell, Dr. Lloyd Reynolds, Albert Williams, **Permanent Secretary's Nominee:** Dr. Naydene Williams, **Regional Director and Secretary:** Michael Bent; **Regional Technical Director:** Dr. Vitillius Holder; **CEO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr. Everton McIntosh