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## 'Tis the Season at the G&M

Collingwood, ON

The G&M Hospital ([www.cgmh.on.ca](http://www.cgmh.on.ca)) appreciates your patience if you require emergency care over this holiday season. The four-season resort communities of Clearview Township, Wasaga Beach, Collingwood and The Blue Mountains enjoy high quality care close to home however it is a very busy time for their local Hospital. The G&M sees over 100 patients/day in the Emergency Department (ED) and often many more at peak times like annual holidays. In fact, extra team members are ready to support the ED to ensure medical care and important diagnostic services are available to residents and visitors alike, especially now that the hills are open for business!

Lisa Nicol, Manager of the Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit, Ambulatory Care and Cardio Respiratory Unit at the G&M says, "We treat a lot of broken limbs over the holidays and these patients often come to us via ambulance and on stretchers. People in the waiting room at the G&M may not know that ambulances come into the Emergency Department through different doors that are not visible to waiting patients. So, while it may not look busy from the waiting room, it's often very different for physicians and staff behind the scenes. We're asking folks to please be respectful and patient until you are seen. Our teams are under pressure as well. We're doing everything humanly possible to care for you as quickly as we can."

The G&M remind people when coming to the Emergency Department to:

- come to the Triage window when you first arrive
- use the hand sanitizer provided when you arrive and again when you leave and before and after using the washrooms
- have only one visitor per patient while in the waiting room
- not eat or drink anything until you are seen by a physician
- tell the Triage Nurse if your condition worsens
- please be patient and respectful while you are waiting. Patients are seen based on the seriousness of their condition and not on the time of arrival. Patients who are more ill will be seen first.

For non-urgent medical care, Telehealth Ontario offers free, confidential telephone health advice or general health information from a Registered Nurse by calling 1-866-797-0000. The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit also offers help by calling 721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or on their website at [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org). In addition, Collingwood has an After Hours Clinic, located at 186 Erie Street (behind the Hospital). The clinic is open Monday – Friday 6pm – 8:45pm and Sat. and Sunday from 9am – 11:45am with the exception of special holiday hours, which are:

December 24<sup>th</sup> - **CLOSED**  
December 25<sup>th</sup> - **CLOSED**  
December 26<sup>th</sup> - **CLOSED**  
December 31 - **CLOSED**  
January 1<sup>st</sup> - **CLOSED**

For information about the G&M Hospital, visit [www.cgmh.on.ca](http://www.cgmh.on.ca)

**Collingwood G&M Hospital (G&M)** is a 72-bed hospital located in Collingwood, Ontario (approximately 90 minutes north of Toronto) that serves more than 60,000 permanent residents and 2.5 Million annual visitors to the communities of Wasaga Beach, Collingwood, Stayner, Creemore and the Blue Mountains. The G&M is an acute care hospital providing emergency care, diagnostic services including lab, imaging and cardio respiratory therapy, as well as two inpatient units (medicine and surgery). In addition, the G&M also provides care in speciality areas including obstetrics, orthopaedics, intensive care and surgery. The Hospital also provides out patient care including dialysis and a wide range of clinics including mental health and rehabilitation services. The G&M continues to provide care close to home for our community and plays a key role as an integrated orthopaedic centre for our region. For more information please visit our website at [www.cgmh.on.ca](http://www.cgmh.on.ca) and our Foundation website at [www.cgmhf.com](http://www.cgmhf.com)

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If you have any questions about this release please contact Linda Davis, President and CEO, Collingwood General and Marine Hospital at 444.8601, ext. 8200.

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