



**Media Statement – Update on UK Variant Strain of COVID-19 at Heritage Lodge – Winnipeg
- Dr. Rhonda Collins, Chief Medical Officer, Revera**

March 17, 2021

Winnipeg Regional Health Authority declared an outbreak of COVID-19 at Heritage Lodge Long Term Care Home in Winnipeg on March 10 after one staff member tested positive. Subsequently, a resident tested positive.

We have been notified that the resident who tested positive has the same B.1.1.7. (UK) Variant strain of COVID-19 as the staff member who was tested after a community exposure and confirmed for the UK variant on March 13. The resident is in isolation in the home and the staff member is in self-isolation at home.

We are committed to doing everything we can to protect the health and safety of our residents, staff members and their families. We are working very closely with Public Health officials and continue to follow strict pandemic outbreak protocols and infection control practices. All residents are monitored twice daily for symptoms.

All staff are screened at the beginning and end of their shifts and take an antigen test weekly. All staff are required to wear an appropriate mask and eye protection in the home. Enhanced cleaning is being done at Heritage Lodge. We frequently disinfect high touch surfaces like handrails and doors, common areas and staff rooms.

All residents on the first floor and second floor are to remain in their rooms at all times. Individual recreation activities will be continued to maintain social engagement during this period of isolation. Meals will be served in rooms with supervision and assistance, as required.

We have informed the residents, their families and the staff of the status of outbreak involving the resident and employee. At the direction of Shared Health, general visits are cancelled temporarily. Visits from designated family caregivers and essential visits for palliative residents will be permitted once contact tracing is complete.

Most residents at Heritage Lodge who are eligible to be vaccinated and who consented have received both doses of the vaccine. Vaccinations for staff are ongoing.

Revera continues to do everything we can to keep our residents and employees safe as we work to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at our long term care homes and retirement residences.