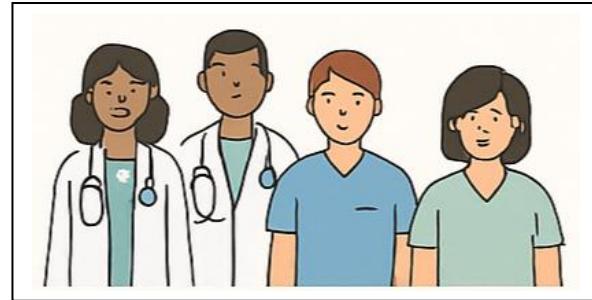


# MECHANICAL VENTILATOR WEANING PROGRAMS at MICHAEL GARRON HOSPITAL

## Our Care Teams

When you join one of our ventilator weaning programs like our Critical Care Long Stay Program (LSP), our Provincial Prolonged Ventilation Weaning Centre Program (PWC), or our Non-Invasive Ventilation Program (NIVP), you will be cared for by a team of doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, dieticians, and other health workers.

Our team works together to help you become as independent as possible.



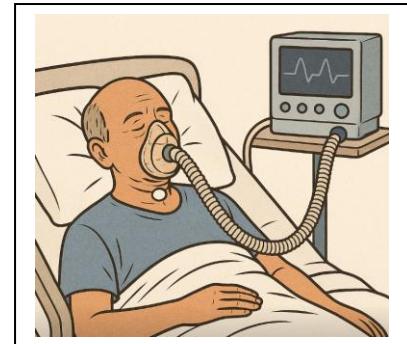
## What We Do

We help you slowly come off the breathing machine (ventilator) in small, safe steps.

This means using the machine less and breathing on your own more over time.

Our program focuses on:

- Helping you breathe without the machine
- Exercise and movement (sitting, standing, and walking)
- Physical therapy, even while using the ventilator



## Talking and Communication

It can be hard to speak when you are using a breathing machine.

A speech therapist will check how you can best communicate.

We use special tools to help you talk or share your needs in other ways.

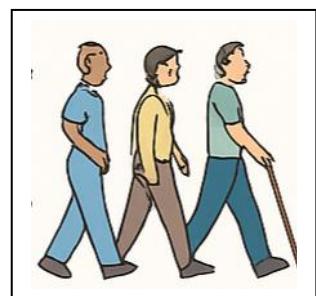


## Staying Safe

When people use a ventilator for a long time, problems can happen.

We take steps to prevent things like:

- Infections
- Blood clots
- Bleeding
- Heart problems
- Skin sores
- Anxiety or worry



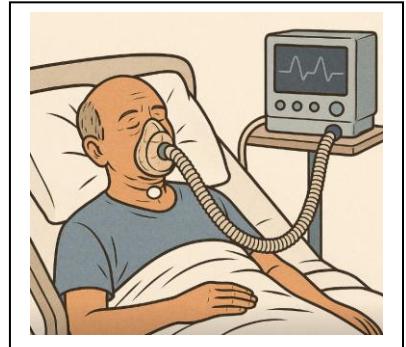
## Coming Off the Ventilator

If you can fully breathe on your own, we may remove your:

- Breathing tube (tracheostomy)
- Feeding tube
- IV lines

Some people may only need the ventilator part of the time.

They might use a special mask for breathing during sleep or part of the day.



## After the Program

Patients who fully wean off the ventilator can:

- Go home
- Return to their first hospital
- Go to a rehab centre to keep getting stronger
- Be followed in our outpatient clinic for patients who have been on a ventilator (PIC-Vent clinic in the CHEST Centre T2)



Patients who still need the ventilator may:

- Return to their first hospital
- Move to a home ventilation program
- Move to a long-term ventilation program



## Caring and Comfort

We also provide kind and supportive care for patients and families who need comfort care or help at the end of life.

### Contact Information

<b>Critical Care Long Stay Program</b> Melanie Liavas, Clinical Utilization Coordinator Phone 416 671 5716 Fax 416 469 6377 <a href="mailto:Melanie.Liavas@tehn.ca">Melanie.Liavas@tehn.ca</a>	<b>Provincial Prolonged Weaning Centre of Excellence</b> Molly Magee, RNEC Phone 416 469 6580 x 3149 <a href="mailto:Molly.magee@tehn.ca">Molly.magee@tehn.ca</a> Kim Aitken-Menezes RN, BSCN, MN, T9/PWC Manager Phone 416 469 6580 x 3619 <a href="mailto:Kimberly.AitkenMenezes@tehn.ca">Kimberly.AitkenMenezes@tehn.ca</a>
<b>Director MGH Ventilation and Weaning Programs – Marcus J. Kargel MD FRCPC FCCP</b>	
<a href="mailto:Prolonged.ventilation@tehn.ca">Prolonged.ventilation@tehn.ca</a>	