



POLICY PP-37: COVID-19 Screening and Screening Outcomes for Visitors

Infection Control

Approval Date: May 14, 2021
Approval Authority: Administrator, Norview Lodge
Effective Date: May 14, 2021
Revision Date/s: June 4, 2021, July 28, 2021, December 21, 2021, October 12, 2022, March 22, 2023, March 31, 2023, June 28, 2023

Procedure

Visitors to the home will enter and exit via the main entrance and passively screen using the signage in the vestibule and perform hand hygiene prior to entry.

Visitors who fail passive screening should not enter the home when ill and should leave the home immediately and self isolate at their own home and follow Public Health guidance.

All persons entering the home must sign into the Visitor logbook located at the front entrance. The Visitor log can be used for contact tracing and is retained for 30 days.

When a Visitor tests positive for COVID-19

Visitors who test positive for COVID-19 and/or have symptoms compatible with COVID-19 should self-isolate at their own home until symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms) and no fever is present.

Visitors should notify the home of their recent illness/positive test.

Visitors for a total of 10 days after the date of specimen collection or symptom onset, (whichever is earlier/applicable), should avoid non-essential visits to anyone who is immunocompromised or at a higher risk of illness and avoid non-essential visits to highest -risk settings (such as hospitals and long-term care homes).

Exceptions to individuals who fail screening:

1. Visitors for imminently palliative Residents

- If the visitor fails screening, they must be permitted entry, but the home ensures that they wear a medical mask and maintain physical distance from other Residents and staff.

2. Visitors who test positive for COVID-19

- Visitors should continue to avoid visiting a long-term care home for 10 days after symptom onset or positive test result.
- Where visits cannot be avoided and where the visitor is essential to the Residents overall health and well-being (eg. Essential caregiver visits) The visitor is able to visit the home within the 10-day timeframe if asymptomatic or symptoms have resolved but they must follow measures to reduce the risk of transmission for 10 days from their symptom onset/positive test.
- **Measures to reduce risk:**
 - Visitors should wear a medical mask
 - Maintain physical distancing to other Residents and staff
 - Should notify the home of their recent illness/positive test.
 - It is recommended during this visit; the Resident also wear a mask.

Screening Questions

- Please refer to the COVID-19 Screening Tool for Long-Term Care Homes and Retirement Homes

Results of Screening Questions

- Refer to the screening tool.

References

COVID-19 Screening Tool for Long-Term Care Homes and Retirement Homes

Ministry of Long-Term Care COVID-19 Guidance: Long-Term Care Homes, Retirement Homes and other Congregate Living Settings for Public Health Units – June 26, 2023